



SERMON GUIDE

RAISING KIDS TO FIGHT DRAGONS

Ephesians 2:10, 2 Timothy 1:1-14 | Pastor Tim Prince

January 8, 2023

Helping people live a gospel inspired life.

Watch or listen to sermons at fcchudson.com or the FCC app. Go to the App Store or Google Play and search "Faith Community Church Hudson" to download the app.

Listen to this week's worship music playlist on Spotify.

SERMON NOTES

OUR MISSION is to make more and better disciples of Jesus Christ.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

Col 4:2 (Prayer)
Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

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Conversation Questions

The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

- Scripture that stands out to you while you read
- Observations you are making about a passage
- Applications that connect the verses to your real life and relationships
- Prayer that invites God to participate in all that you do

Getting to Know Me: Try to remember Middle School. Do you remember what you wanted to be when you grew up? What were some of your biggest challenges?

Note About the Passage: 2 Timothy is Paul's last letter. He is in prison in Rome and he senses that this time, he will not be released. Tradition states that Paul was executed by beheading shortly after writing this letter. Timothy is his dear friend and apprentice. He is young and Paul doesn't want him to be timid. Paul left him to pastor one of the most strategic churches in the Roman Empire – the church at Ephesus. Church tradition says that Timothy was martyred in Ephesus after confronting a mob.

Read 2 Timothy 1:1-14 and Ephesians 2:10 (A note to the group leader: you may want to print these off so people don't have to flip back and forth through their Bibles.)

- S:** What verses, phrases, words, or feelings stand out to you as you read this text? Is anything "illuminated," surprising, or jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O:** Timothy was someone that wrestled with fear (1:7) and shame (1:8), so Paul wrote this letter to encourage him. In this section, Paul uses a lot of different things to try to encourage Timothy. Which ones stand out to you and why?
- As you think about the kids in your life, is there anything you've read here that made you say, "Oh, I wish _____ would know that! That would be really encouraging to them." Why?
- O:** In 1:7, Paul contrasts a spirit of fear with the Spirit of "power, love and self-control." Why do you think Paul chooses these three specific things as a contrast to fear? Why are these three spiritual attributes so important if we're going to live a life of courage?
- O:** To be ashamed in this context means "to shrink back" from something. Rather than shrinking back, Paul invites Timothy to "suffer for the gospel by the power of God" (1:8).
- Think about this from the perspective of kids in your life: What would it take for a kid to look at suffering and say, "Yes, this is worth it. I'm going to suffer for this, instead of shrinking away." Have you ever seen them do that? What made it worthwhile?
 - What do you think it means to suffer "by the power of God" (1:8)?
- O:** What truths about God does Paul remind Timothy of in verses 8-14. Why do you think these would have been encouraging to Timothy in his situation?
- Which of these truths do you think would be most encouraging to a kid in your life? Why?
- A:** If God had written this passage just for you or a kid in your life, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?
- A:** Is there any specific relationship or situation that you are "shrinking away from" that you know God is asking you to lean into and suffer in the power of God? How are you going to do that this week? What specific words, phrases or promises from 2 Timothy will you need to put on to do that this week?
- A:** Is there anything today that you read or talked about and thought, "Oh, I wish that _____ (a kid in your life) knew about this. I want to share this with them." How and when will you do that this week?
- P:** Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction that you need.