

New Testament Handles

2 Timothy

An intensely personal letter, written from Paul in his final days to Timothy, not simply as a minister of the Gospel, but as a Christian entering a new era – life without the Apostles. A time characterized by increasing Opposition, Defection, Distortion, and Persecution / Suffering. Timothy stands for every Christian / every church – the entrustment is in our hands. What we do with it will determine not only the progress of the Kingdom in our days, but also our own confidence in the last day.

Handle #1: Hard Battle Ahead

1. _____ – 2:14, 2:25, 3:8, 4:14-15
2. _____ – 1:15, 4:3-4, 4:10, 4:16
3. _____ – 2:14-18, 3:5-9,13, 4:3-4
4. _____ – 1:8,12,16, 2:3,9-10,11, 3:1,11-12, 4:5,17

Handle #2: The Battle Plan

1. _____ – 1:8, 2:3,9-10, 3:10-14, 4:4,15
2. _____ – 1:8-9, 2:14-15, 4:1-2,5
3. _____ – 1:13, 2:16-18, 2:24-26
4. _____ – 1:13-14, 2:2, 4:11, 14-15

Handle #3: Trusted Weapons

1. _____ – 1:13, 2:15, 3:14-4:5
2. _____ – 1:6, 1:14, 4:17
3. _____ – 1:8,13,16-18, 2:9-10, 3:10, 4:6-8, 11-12, 13, 17-18
4. _____ – use of strong terms (workman, farmer, soldier, useful vessel, slave, man of God, evangelist, His prisoner, chosen one)
5. _____ – 1:13, 2:19-22, 3:10
6. _____ – 1:8-10, 2:4-6, 7, 8-10, 11-13, 19, 25-26, 4:6-8, 17-18

EXTRAS

Gems to Memorize / Meditate upon...

- 1:8-9
- 2:1-7
- 2:15
- 2:20-21
- 2:24-26
- 3:12
- 3:16-17
- 4:1-4
- 4:7-8

Special Reflection on 2 Tim 2:2

- “The Things” – heard publicly, many witnesses – not the trivial, but the essential
- Entrust – like in Luke 23:46, Acts 14:23 – commit the whole thing (hand it over)
- TO men who are...
 - Faithful – men of proven character in spiritual matters
 - Able to teach others – there is special need for teachers

Two applications

- General – all discipleship
 - Focus on the essential truths of the faith (not wrangling about words)
 - Consider yourself “entrusting” the church into the care of the one you are discipling
 - Spend most time with those who are faithful; pray for & exhort those who aren’t
 - Assist / Expect their passing the very same along to others
- Specific – training spiritual leaders
 - The existing leaders must spend a disproportionate amount of their time passing on the essential truths and the ability to teach to a group of faithful men who will be able to exercise leadership in a growing church, and on behalf of the next generation of the church.
 - Men need to aspire to this place of usefulness in the Lord’s service, first by proving themselves faithful (Phil 4:9), and then by pursuing and submitting to such training by the existing leaders / teachers.