



2 Timothy 4:9-21

⁹Do your best to come to me soon. ¹⁰For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry. ¹²Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus. ¹³When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments... ¹⁹Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. ²⁰Erastus remained at Corinth, and I left Trophimus, who was ill, at Miletus. ²¹Do your best to come before winter. Eubulus sends greetings to you, as do Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brothers.

Background

In what is most likely his final correspondence with his 'son' in the faith, Paul's vulnerable words to Timothy remind all of us of the importance of presence. Most of Paul's investment in the life of Timothy occurred in close proximity as the two traveled together, served together, and shared difficult circumstances together. In this passage, as he lives out his final days in a Roman prison, one of Paul's desires is to simply see Timothy one more time. Today, Pastor Danny will encourage us to consider how being present in the lives of others, whether as physical or spiritual fathers (and mothers), positions us for the greatest gospel influence.

Service Notes

What is your biggest takeaway from today's message?

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Instructions

This discussion guide is to help you facilitate a conversation with your small group. The “Getting Started” section serves as a quick opener and introduction to the group conversation. In the “Talk it Over” section, feel free to use all or only some of the questions. Again, our hope is to have meaningful and encouraging conversations around the passage used in the sermon, not simply answer all the questions. Give each member of your group opportunity to respond. Take your time. Finally, the “Live it Out” section is to help identify a specific next step. Use these questions as a guide to find practical ways to apply the passage to our everyday life.

Getting Started

- ▼ If there is anyone new to the group, have them introduce themselves and share what motivated them to participate in this Life Group. Then quickly introduce everyone else in your group (if less than ten people).
- ▼ What stood out the most to you in the message this week?

Talk it Over

- ▼ Describe a time when the simple ‘presence’ of someone made a dramatic (positive) difference in your life? In what ways did this influence the way you lived moving forward?
- ▼ Read 2 Timothy 3:10-15. According to this passage, in what ways did Paul model a faithful life when he was around Timothy? Who else had an influential ‘presence’ in Timothy’s life? Why is this important?
- ▼ What is one way you can be more intentional in leveraging your ‘presence’ to be an encouragement to those around you?

Live it Out

- ▼ Who is a person in your life that could benefit from your ‘presence’ in their life? Make a commitment this week to contact them with an encouraging word.