

2 Timothy: What Matters Most

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2 Timothy 4:6-8

November 16, 2025

Discussion and Reflection Guide

Paul is aware his time on earth is coming to a close

This letter to Timothy allows him to reflect on his life.

- *Have you ever had occasion to really examine your own life?
- *Do you have a 'bucket list'?
- *What do you want to be true of your life?

He wants Timothy to understand living for others

Read and discuss 2 Timothy 4:6 (NIV)

⁶For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near.

- *What does the metaphor of 'a drink offering' mean in this context?
- *Contrast drinking versus pouring out and what that looks like when living life?
- *Where do you pour yourself out in offering?

Paul returns to using an athletic metaphor for the end of his life

Read and discuss 2 Timothy 4:7-8 (NIV)

⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

- *Do you more often find yourself focusing on fighting a fight or fighting the good fight? What's the difference?
- *What do you think 'keeping the faith' looks like?
- *Who has exemplified this well in your life? How does that example challenge or motivate you to live?

Paul has fought for what was important, finished well and remained faithful in suffering

Thinking about death isn't something we like to do, but reflection is helpful for us.

- *What makes thinking about your own death so difficult?
- *How do you want to be remembered? What type of person do you want to be known as?
- *How then should you live? Is there something that can start today?
- *What do you sense the Spirit saying about your legacy and the way you pour yourself out?