

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK OF: DECEMBER 3-9

[B]

BIBLE
ENGAGEMENT
PROJECT

 GLAD
TIDINGS
CHURCH

gtnetwork.org

DAY ONE

FAITH STORY

2 Timothy
3:10–17

FAITH FACT

God has a plan
for me.

FAITH VERSE

Philippians
3:14 (NLT)

QUESTION OF THE DAY

What will I face because of my faith?



READ ABOUT IT: 2 Timothy 3:10–12

Some people are confused and think that being a Christian means that everything in your life should be perfect and easy. Do you believe that? It sounds really good, doesn't it? If that were true, there would be a line of people out the door of every church, wanting to be saved. But, when you read the Bible, you find examples of the opposite being true. Jesus never promised that following Him would be easy, but He did say that it would be worth it.

Paul's life was probably easier and more comfortable before he became a Christian. He probably had money, people knew who he was, and people respected him. When he became a Christian, he dealt with people rejecting him, throwing him in prison, and even trying to kill him. Why would he consider facing all of those things? His faith in Jesus was worth any cost to him. Paul knew that there was something far greater than he could ever find on earth in heaven—Jesus and the reward that comes to anyone who lives for Him.



THINK ABOUT IT

Question 1. Who was Paul writing to in this passage of Scripture?

Answer 1. Timothy (2 Timothy 3:10)

Question 2. In verse 10, what did Paul say that Timothy knew about him?

Answer 2. "What I teach, how I live, what my purpose in life is, ... my faith, my patience, my love, and my endurance." (2 Timothy 3:10)

Question 3. Which three places did Paul mention that he was persecuted in?

Answer 3. Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra (2 Timothy 3:11)

Question 4. Who will suffer persecution?

Answer 4. "Everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 3:12)



TALK ABOUT IT

- What did today's devotion make you think about?
- What is something difficult you have had to face because of your faith?
- Would you be willing to face what Paul faced for your faith in God? Why or why not?
- Why do you think Paul was willing to be persecuted?



PRAY ABOUT IT

God, thank You for giving me the opportunity to live for You. Help me to be willing to face anything for my faith just like Paul. Amen.

DAY TWO

FAITH STORY

2 Timothy
3:10–17

FAITH FACT

God has a plan
for me.

FAITH VERSE

Philippians
3:14 (NLT)

QUESTION OF THE DAY

What is the most important truth?



READ ABOUT IT: 2 Timothy 3:10–12

Knowing the truth is very important in our world today. There are a lot of confused people out there! And for Christians, the most important truth is everything God has said. Sadly, there are people who want to deceive you by making you not trust God's Word. This isn't new. The first man and woman, Adam and Eve, were deceived by a snake into not trusting and obeying what God had said. And because they chose not to obey what God had said, they lost the wonderful life God had planned for them. In today's Bible reading, Paul wrote to a young pastor named Timothy about the kinds of people who try to deceive others. He was telling Timothy, and all of us, to be faithful to God's truth. Timothy knew the truth because he grew up learning from God's Word in the Scriptures. The same can be true for us! One of the best ways we can know the difference between the truth and a lie is by knowing God's Word.



THINK ABOUT IT

*Question 1. To what young pastor did Paul write two letters which are books of the Bible?

Answer 1. Timothy

Question 2. Who did Paul say would flourish (prosper or succeed)?

Answer 2. Evil people and imposters (2 Timothy 3:13)

Question 3. What will evil people and imposters do?

Answer 3. "They will deceive others and will themselves be deceived." (2 Timothy 3:13)

Question 4. What did Paul tell Timothy to remain faithful to?

Answer 4. The things he had been taught (2 Timothy 3:14)

Question 5. Why should Timothy have known that the things that he had been taught were true?

Answer 5. He could trust those who had taught them to him. (2 Timothy 3:14)



TALK ABOUT IT

- What did today's devotion make you think about?
- Has someone ever tried to make you not believe God's Word?
- Who is someone you can talk to if you have questions about God's Word?
- How much time do you spend in God's Word each week?
- Do you think you need to spend more time in God's Word?
- Do you feel like you know the truth found in God's Word?



PRAY ABOUT IT

God, thank You for reminding me to be aware of the things and people who are distracting me from You. Help me to put the distractions aside and spend time in Your Word every day. Amen.

DAY THREE

FAITH STORY

2 Timothy
3:10–17

FAITH FACT

God has a plan
for me.

FAITH VERSE

Philippians
3:14 (NLT)

QUESTION OF THE DAY

What can we learn from God's Word?



READ ABOUT IT: 2 Timothy 3:15

The obvious answer to the Question of the Day is, everything we need to know. But let's dig deeper into what Paul had told Timothy he had learned from Scripture. Timothy had the privilege of being taught "from childhood" about the holy Scriptures. What about you?

Paul was reminding Timothy of how fortunate he was to have been taught about God's Word his entire life. Timothy probably had wisdom and knowledge that other people his age didn't have because he had spent his whole life learning the Word of God.

If you have been taught God's Word for as long as you can remember, you are like Timothy. Don't decide that reading the Bible isn't as fun or interesting as other things you might have to do like sports, reading, playing video games, or just spending time with your family and friends. Don't take for granted the privilege you have to be taught and spend time in God's Word now. God's Word has everything you need, but you have to make the time to read it and learn what it says.



THINK ABOUT IT

Question 1. How long had Timothy been taught the holy Scriptures?

Answer 1. From childhood (2 Timothy 3:15)

Question 2. What gave Timothy wisdom?

Answer 2. The holy Scriptures (2 Timothy 3:15)

Question 3. What did Timothy have the wisdom to receive because he had been taught the holy Scriptures?

Answer 3. Salvation (2 Timothy 3:15)

Question 4. Who did Timothy trust in?

Answer 4. Christ Jesus (2 Timothy 3:15)



TALK ABOUT IT

- What did today's devotion make you think about?
- What is something you have learned from being taught God's Word?
- What is something you have learned from reading God's Word on your own or someone reading it to you?
- What is your earliest memory of reading or being taught about the Bible?
- What is your favorite story in the Bible?



PRAY ABOUT IT

God, thank You for giving us Your Word to help us. Help me to spend time reading or listening to Your Word and learning the truths found in the Bible every day. Amen.

DAY FOUR

FAITH STORY

2 Timothy
3:10–17

FAITH FACT

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FAITH VERSE

Philippians
3:14 (NLT)

QUESTION OF THE DAY

What makes the Bible so important?



READ ABOUT IT: 2 Timothy 3:16–17

Have you ever thought about why the Bible is so important? Take a moment and imagine trying to be a follower of Jesus without the Bible. Did you know that most people in the Bible didn't have Bibles in their homes? They may have had some of the Scripture we have today, but they would go to places of worship and to be taught the full Scripture. Some of the Bible was still being written.

Imagine if the people who lived in Bible times knew that one day there would be free access to the Bible on phones and devices that go with us everywhere. They would be so jealous!

But there may be days we forget to even look at our Bibles for a few minutes.

The Bible is literally God's message to us. Verse 16 tells us that all Scripture is inspired by God. That means every word in the Bible is there because God caused it to be there. The Bible is important because it's how we get to know God. We can't have a face-to-face conversation with God like we can with a school friend, but reading the Bible is pretty close. If your best friend wrote a book, would you read it? If you did, you would probably learn something new about the friend. We can learn new things about God and grow closer to Him by spending time reading His Word. That sounds pretty important.



THINK ABOUT IT

Question 1. What is inspired by God?

Answer 1. All Scripture. (2 Timothy 3:16)

Question 2. Why is Scripture useful?

Answer 2. It teaches us what is true and makes us realize what is wrong in our lives. (2 Timothy 3:16)

Question 3. When does Scripture correct us?

Answer 3. When we are wrong (2 Timothy 3:16)

Question 4. How does God use Scripture?

Answer 4. To prepare and equip us to do every good work (2 Timothy 3:17)



TALK ABOUT IT

- What did today's devotion make you think about?
- What is something important you have learned from reading the Bible?
- Have you ever read something in the Bible and realized you had been doing something wrong?
- How does the Bible prepare you and give you what you need to obey God?



PRAY ABOUT IT

God, thank You for showing me the importance of Your Word. Please help me to know when I am doing something wrong and give me the courage to do what is right. Amen.