

Text: 2 Timothy 2:1-7
Topics: Discipleship, Endurance, Hardship, Reward
Series: Fulfilling Our Calling

Monroe Bible Church
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It Isn't Easy!

I. Exhortation to Endurance (1-3)

The source of strength
be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus...

The strategy of success
entrust these to faithful men who will be able...

The secret of suffering
suffer hardship with me as a good soldier...

Draw strength from Christ as you *endure* the hardships of *building* disciples for Christ.

II. Examples of Endurance (4-7)

The soldier...
not entangle himself...that he may please the one that enlisted him

The athlete...
competes according to the rules

The hard-working farmer...
the first to receive his share

There's *cost* to disciple-making, but also *reward*.

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group, for even more benefit.*

1. What is a difficult circumstance you are facing right now? How do you find strength from the Lord to handle it? What different aspect does being a believer add to the difficult circumstance?

2. Read Ephesians 3:14-21. What does Paul do so that his readers might find inner strength? Notice that he doesn't tell them to do something. How does he want them to "be strengthened"?

Explain what this "being strengthened" looks, or would look, like in your life?

3. Jesus gave every believer their life mission – make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20). The apostle Paul always had people with him. Who are you discipling right now, and how? What are the challenges?

Read Hebrews 12:1-2, 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, and 1 Thessalonians 2:9-12. What principles do you see to help in living out the Christian life and mission?

Which one principle do you believe the Lord desires you to focus on putting into practice now?

4. A believer should not be surprised by the hardships and sufferings that arise in the disciple-making life. From Ephesians 6:10-18 what provisions has God given us?

What encouragement and what exhortation does the writer of Hebrews give his readers in Hebrews 6:9-12?

Which provision, exhortation, or encouragement means the most to you right now? Why?

5. What is the main application of this study, and/or the sermon and its passages, for you?