

## Passage Guide for 2 Timothy 2:1-2

**You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.**

- Read these 2 verses over a few times. What words would you use to describe Paul's "tone" to Timothy? Imagine being Timothy and reading these words. What do you imagine he'd be feeling and thinking as he read them?
- The words "be strong" are actually passive in the Greek language, meaning "be strengthened by," rather than "strengthen yourself." Where is this strength to come from, according to the passage? One commentator says, "The command demanded Timothy's continuous active cooperation with God."
- "The things you have heard me say"- in this context refers to the foundational truths of our faith, namely- the gospel. Last week we looked at the foundational content of the gospel in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4. Here are a couple of additional summary definitions of the gospel:

*The 'gospel' is the good news that through Christ the power of God's kingdom has entered history to renew the whole world. When we believe and rely on Jesus' work and record (rather than ours) for our relationship to God, that kingdom power comes upon us and begins to work through us."*

*Tim Keller*

*"The gospel is the royal announcement that the crucified and risen Jesus, who died for our sins and rose again according to the Scriptures, has been enthroned as the true Lord of the world. When this gospel is preached, God calls people to salvation, out of sheer grace, leading them to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ as the risen Lord."*

*N.T. Wright*

***How confident are you in your own ability to clearly articulate the gospel? What do you need to do to increase your confidence?***

- *"Entrust to reliable men"- the word "men" is a general term that means "people"- men and women. The kind of people we are to seek out are "reliable"- also translated "faithful, trustworthy."*
- *"Who will be able to teach others"- it's critical that they are both willing and able to pass on what they have received. We are not meant to be simply containers that hold truth, but rather we are to be conduits and communicators that pass on and entrust to others what we have received.*