

Scripture Guide- 2 Timothy 3:10-17

10-11 - Paul now gives another list- this one will be qualities of his own life that Timothy has seen for himself. Teaching- anchored in the message of the gospel; Way of Life- his overall conduct and pattern of living; Purpose- his laser-like focus on the gospel and making Jesus known; Faith, Patience, Love—virtues that have been evident in him even as he's faced much difficulty and opposition; Persecutions and sufferings- he refers to specific instances that Timothy would have known about and that are detailed in Acts 14.

12 - This reality is one that Timothy (and we, today) need to hear- so that we're not caught off guard or think that we've done something wrong when we encounter opposition to our faith and to the gospel.

13 - The "evildoers and imposters" likely refers to the false teachers that Paul has been referring to earlier- Paul is urging Timothy not to be surprised at their bad behavior but also to stand up to them.

14 - "In what you have learned"- from Paul and from his own upbringing in the Scriptures, in the pattern of teaching that the church had been established in.

15 - The Scriptures- here refers to what we know as the Old Testament, since the New Testament was not yet complete; Timothy would have been well-trained in the Hebrew Scripture.

16-17 - An incredible statement about the Bible- that it is literally "God-breathed"- meaning that God Himself has breathed His character into it, so that what we have is divinely inspired. As a result of the divine source of the Bible, it is then "profitable," useful for these purposes: teaching (about God Himself, about ourselves, about the true nature of reality), reproof (rebuke, divine correction), correction (literally "to set right again"), for training in righteousness (from a verb that often refers to the training of a child in the right way to live). The end result of the application of God's Word is that we would be "thoroughly equipped" - prepared and readied to do all that God would want us to do.