

How to Pray Like Paul

Learning from his prayers
for the New Testament churches

Hill Cliffe Study Guide Sunday 29 October 2023 #4 Friends and Co-Workers

1. What impacted you most from the Interview with Tom Battarbee?
 - a. What does it mean for you to practice Christian Faith in your workplace, or in your everyday activities?
 - b. How do you pray about your work / workplace, or about your daily activities?
2. What impacted you most from Stuart's Sermon on Sunday?

Please read 1 Timothy 1.1-2; Acts 16.1-3; 1 Cor 4.16-17; 1 Cor.16.10; Rom 16.21; 2 Cor 1.1

3. How would you describe Paul's relationship with Timothy?

Paul's Letters to Timothy

The Letters to Timothy from Paul (1 and 2 Timothy) are written from Rome around the time of Paul's final imprisonments before his death – after the events of the book of Acts. He has known Timothy for over 20 years by this point, and Timothy has travelled and ministered extensively with Paul and is now a church leader in Ephesus. Paul writes personally in these letters to his dear 'son', 'brother' and 'co-worker' in the Lord – to affirm, encourage and challenge him in his faith and ministry.

Please read 1 Timothy 1.12-17

4. Why do you think Paul records this prayer to God about his own ministry – in this letter for Timothy to read?
5. What kind of attitude and spirit does Paul exemplify in this prayer? How might this impact Timothy?

Please read 2 Timothy 1.3-5

6. Why do you think Paul reveals to Timothy that he is remembering the sincerity of Timothy's faith (alongside the faith of his mother and grandmother) as he prays for him?
7. Take a moment to privately note down on your paper or your phone – those people you know who might struggle with comparing themselves and their faith negatively with others. Please pray for them privately, and could you contact them (or write to them) to affirm them in their sincere faith?

Please read 2 Timothy 1.6-8,13

8. Given that Timothy has been ministering for 20 years in mission and church leadership – why would Paul need to remind him to 'fan into flame the gift of God' given to him, and to overcome timidity and feelings of being ashamed of the gospel or its ministers, and to challenge him to suffer for the gospel?
9. Do you need this caring challenge in your Christian walk and ministry? Do you know others who do? Pray for one another and spur one another on towards love and good deeds.