

2 TIMOTHY

Lesson 2:
Chapter Two
“Characteristics of a Faithful Minister”

The Second Epistle to Timothy

Chapters 1 and 2

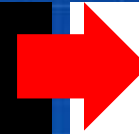
Persevere in Present Testings

Thanksgiving for
Timothy's Faith

1:1-5

Reminder of Timothy's
Responsibility

1:6-18



7 Characteristics of a
Faithful Minister

2:1-26

Look for the answers to these questions:

Match the Characteristic of a Faithful Minister to the correct description:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Son | a) He is devoted to study the Scriptures. |
| 2. Soldier | b) He is known by his good fruit. |
| 3. Athlete | c) He is gentle to all, ready to teach, and patient. |
| 4. Husbandman | d) He is guided into maturity by someone who like a parent. |
| 5. Workman | e) He is prepared for the Master's use. |
| 6. Vessel unto Honour | f) He disciplines himself to run his race to the end. |
| 7. Servant | g) He is willing to face hardships for the sake of the Gospel. |
8. What are the four generations of believers in 2 Timothy 2:2?
 9. What wise counsel is given in 2 Timothy 2:23 AND Titus 3:9?
 10. What is the "seal" of the foundation of God?

7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:1

- 1 Thou therefore, **my son**, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

In this chapter, Paul described seven characteristics that make a good church leader.



2 Timothy 2:1

- 1 Thou therefore, **my son**, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

1. He is a Son

Paul was like a father to Timothy. He raised him to maturity in the work of God. Timothy wisely submitted to Paul's guidance.

Christians must be *prepared* for leadership by someone who can guide them like a parent guides his child.

7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:1

- ¹ Thou therefore, **my son**,
be strong in the grace that is in
Christ Jesus.

Their relationship was not like a master with his servant. Paul and Timothy served the Lord together.

Philippians 2:22

- ²² But ye know the proof of him,
that, **as a son with the father**,
he hath served with me in the
gospel.



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:1

- ¹ Thou therefore, my son,
**be strong in the grace that is in
Christ Jesus.**

Those who endure will be strong in grace, and not in ourselves.

2 Corinthians 12:9

- ⁹ And he said unto me,
My grace is sufficient for thee:
for my strength is made perfect in
weakness.
Most gladly therefore will I rather
glory in my infirmities, that the
power of Christ may rest upon me.



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:2

² And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.



Every faithful minister can be a part of
FOUR GENERATIONS of believers:

7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:2

² And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

- 1) Your teacher.
- 2) You and the others who were taught by him.



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:2

² And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, **the same commit thou to faithful men,** who shall be able to teach others also.

- 1) Your teacher.
- 2) You and the others who were taught by him.
- 3) The people YOU teach.



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:2

² And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, **who shall be able to teach others also.**

- 1) Your teacher.
- 2) You and the others who were taught by him.
- 3) The people YOU teach.
- 4) The people your students teach.



2 Timothy 2:3-4

- 3 Thou therefore endure hardness,
as **a good soldier of Jesus Christ.**
- 4 No man that warreth entangleth
himself with the affairs of *this* life;
that he may please him who hath
chosen him to be a soldier.



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

1. He is a Son
2. He is a Soldier

7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:3-4

- 3 Thou therefore **endure hardness**, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.
- 4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

A faithful minister must be willing to face hardships and trouble for the sake of the Gospel with courage and without complaint.



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:3-4

- 3 Thou therefore endure hardness,
as **a good soldier of Jesus Christ**.
- 4 No man that warreth entangleth
himself with the affairs of *this* life;
that he may please him who hath
chosen him to be a soldier.

Good soldiers will obey “the captain of their salvation” (Heb. 2:10).

Luke 6:46

⁴⁶ And why call ye me, Lord, Lord,
and do not the things which I say?



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:3-4

- 3 Thou therefore endure hardness,
as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.
- 4 No man that warreth **entangleth
himself** with the affairs of *this* life;
that he may please him who hath
chosen him to be a soldier.



A good soldier will not be overtaken by
the cares of everyday living.

Matthew 13:22

- ²² He also that received seed among the
thorns is he that heareth the word;
and the care of this world,
and the deceitfulness of riches,
choke the word,
and he becometh unfruitful.

2 Timothy 2:5

5 And if a man also strive for **masteries**, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

1. He is a Son
2. He is a Soldier
3. He is an Athlete

7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:5

⁵ And if a man also strive for **masteries**, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.

Like a trained athlete, he disciplines himself to run his race to the end.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

²⁵ And every man that **striveth for the mastery** is temperate in all things.

Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.



2 Timothy 2:6

⁶ **The husbandman** that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits.



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

1. He is a Son
2. He is a Soldier
3. He is a Athlete
4. **He is a Husbandman**

* a cultivator or tiller of the ground.

7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:6

⁶ **The husbandman** that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits.

Before you take someone's advice on how to grow a garden, look at what he's already grown.

A good leader will show the good fruits of Christianity both in his personal life and his ministry. As Jesus said, "Whereby by their fruits, ye shall know them."



2 Timothy 2:6

⁶ **The husbandman** that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits.



Geneva Bible Notes

“No man may look for the harvest, unless he first take pains to plow and sow his ground.”

2 Timothy 2:7

⁷ Consider what I say; and the Lord
give thee understanding in all things.

Only the Lord can open the eyes of our
understanding.



2 Timothy 2:7

7 Consider what I say; and the Lord
give thee understanding in all things.



This is true for all students of the Bible.

Psalm 119:125

I am thy servant; give me understanding,
that I may know thy testimonies.

2 Timothy 2:8-9

- 8 Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel:
- 9 Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.

In verses 8 to 13, Paul tells Timothy to remember the importance of the Gospel message.



2 Timothy 2:8-9

- 8 Remember that **Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead** according to my gospel:
- 9 Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.



Paul boldly restates the two truths that led to his imprisonment:

1. That Jesus is the heir to David's throne, the Messiah and King.
2. That God raised Jesus from the dead.

2 Timothy 2:10

¹⁰ Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

We must be willing to face difficulties for the sake of those who have not yet come to Christ.



2 Timothy 2:11-13

¹¹ *It is a faithful saying:*

For if we be dead with *him*,
we shall also live with *him*:

¹² If we suffer,

we shall also reign with *him*:
if we deny *him*,
he also will deny us:

¹³ If we believe not,

yet he abideth faithful:
he cannot deny himself.

We now read the last of the five
“faithful saying” in the pastoral
epistles.



The 5 “Faithful Sayings” (πιστός λόγος *pistos logos*) of the Pastoral Epistles:

- 1 Timothy 1:15:** This *is* a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.
- 1 Timothy 3:1:** This *is* a true [faithful] saying,
If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.
- 1 Timothy 4:8b-9:** ⁸ ... godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.
⁹ This *is* a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptation.
- Titus 3:8a:** *This is* a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works.
- 2 Timothy 2:11:** *It is* a faithful saying:
For if we be dead with *him*, we shall also live with *him*:

2 Timothy 2:11-13

¹¹ *It is a faithful saying:*

*For if we be dead with him,
we shall also live with him:*

¹² If we suffer,
we shall also reign with *him*:
if we deny *him*,
he also will deny us:

¹³ If we believe not,
yet he abideth faithful:
he cannot deny himself.

Romans 6:5

⁵ For if we have been planted
together in the likeness of his
death,
we shall be also *in the likeness* of his
resurrection:



2 Timothy 2:11-13

¹¹ *It is* a faithful saying:

For if we be dead with *him*,
we shall also live with *him*:

¹² **If we suffer,**
we shall also reign with *him*:

if we deny *him*,
he also will deny us:

¹³ If we believe not,
yet he abideth faithful:
he cannot deny himself.

Romans 8:17b

¹⁷ ... if so be that we suffer with *him*,
that we may be also glorified
together.



2 Timothy 2:11-13

¹¹ *It is a faithful saying:*

For if we be dead with *him*,
we shall also live with *him*:

¹² If we suffer,
we shall also reign with *him*:

if we deny him,
he also will deny us:

¹³ If we believe not,
yet he abideth faithful:
he cannot deny himself.



Matthew 10:33

³³ But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

2 Timothy 2:11-13

- ¹¹ *It is a faithful saying:*
For if we be dead with *him*,
we shall also live with *him*:
- ¹² If we suffer,
we shall also reign with *him*:
if we deny *him*,
he also will deny us:
- ¹³ **If we believe not,
yet he abideth faithful:
he cannot deny himself.**

Romans 3:3-4a

- ³ For what if some did not believe?
shall their unbelief make the faith of
God without effect?
- ⁴ God forbid:
yea, let God be true,
but every man a liar...



2 Timothy 2:14

¹⁴ Of these things put *them* in remembrance, charging *them* before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, *but* to the subverting of the hearers.

Paul instructs Timothy to remind the church of these things, and to tell them to stop arguing over things that only cause more trouble.



2 Timothy 2:15

¹⁵ Study to shew thyself approved unto God,
a **workman** that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

1. He is a Son
2. He is a Soldier
3. He is a Athlete
4. He is a Husbandman
5. He is a **Workman**

7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:15

¹⁵ Study to shew thyself approved unto God, **a workman** that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.



Anyone who wants to understand the Bible must be devoted to study.

Acts 17:11

¹¹ These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

2 Timothy 2:15

¹⁵ Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing** the word of truth.



Strong's Analytical Concordance

Rightly dividing:

ὀρθοτομέω orthotomeo

Meaning:

- 1) to cut straight, to cut straight
- 2) to proceed on straight paths, hold a straight course, equivalent to doing right
- 3) to make straight and smooth, to handle aright,
- 4) **to teach the truth directly and correctly**

2 Timothy 2:15

¹⁵ Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth.**



Geneva Bible Notes

“By adding nothing to it, neither deleting anything, neither mangling it, nor rending it apart, nor distorting it: but marking diligently what his hearers are able to bear, and what is fit to edifying.”

2 Timothy 2:16-18

- ¹⁶ But shun profane *and* vain babblings:
for they will increase unto more
ungodliness.
- ¹⁷ And their word will eat as doth
a canker:
of whom is **Hymenaeus** and **Philetus**;
- ¹⁸ Who concerning the truth have erred,
saying that the resurrection is past
already; and overthrow the faith of
some.



In chapter 1, Paul wrote about two men who had turned away from him. Now he tells of two who were turning others away from his teachings.

2 Timothy 2:16-18

- ¹⁶ But shun profane *and* vain babblings:
for they will increase unto more
ungodliness.
- ¹⁷ And their word will eat as doth
a canker:
of whom is **Hymenaeus** and Philetus;
- ¹⁸ Who concerning the truth have erred,
saying that the resurrection is past
already; and overthrow the faith of
some.



We read of Hymenaeus in 1 Timothy.
Evidently he did not repent of his evil
doing:

1 Timothy 1:20b

... **Hymenaeus** and Alexander; whom I
have delivered unto Satan, that they
may learn not to blaspheme.

2 Timothy 2:16-18

- ¹⁶ But shun profane *and* vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.
- ¹⁷ And their word will eat as doth **a canker**: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus;
- ¹⁸ Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.



Strong's Analytical Concordance

canker –

γάγγραινα gaggraina

1. a gangrene, a disease by which any part of the body suffering from inflammation becomes so corrupted that, unless a remedy be seasonably applied, the evil continually spreads, attacks other parts, and at last eats away the bones

2 Timothy 2:19

¹⁹ Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal,
The Lord knoweth them that are his.
And,
Let every one that nameth the name
of Christ depart from iniquity.

No one fools the Great Shepherd.
He knows the sheep of his flock.



2 Timothy 2:19

¹⁹ Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal,
The Lord knoweth them that are his.
And,
Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.



Nahum 1:7

⁷ The LORD *is* good,
a strong hold in the day of trouble;
and he knoweth them that trust in
him.

2 Timothy 2:19

¹⁹ Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal,
The Lord knoweth them that are his.
And,

Let every one that nameth the name
of Christ depart from iniquity.



Proverbs 16:6

⁶ By mercy and truth iniquity is purged:
and by the fear of the LORD
men depart from evil.

2 Timothy 2:20-21

²⁰ But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.

²¹ If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be **a vessel unto honour**, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, *and* prepared unto every good work.



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

1. He is a Son
2. He is a Soldier
3. He is a Athlete
4. He is a Husbandman
5. He is a Workman
6. He is a Vessel unto Honour

2 Timothy 2:20-21

²⁰ But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.

²¹ **If a man therefore purge himself from these,** he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, *and* prepared unto every good work.



A faithful minister shows his desire to be used by God by keeping himself clean and ready to serve.

2 Timothy 2:20-21

- ²⁰ But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.
- ²¹ If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and **meet** for the master's use, *and* prepared unto every good work.



Strong's Analytical Concordance

meet = εὐχρηστος (euchrestos)
easy to make use of, useful

In **Philemon**, this word was translated “profitable.”

¹⁰ I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds:

¹¹ Which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now **profitable** to thee and to me:

2 Timothy 2:22-23

- ²² **Flee** also youthful lusts:
but **follow** righteousness, faith,
charity, peace, with them that call on
the Lord out of a pure heart.
- ²³ But foolish and unlearned questions
avoid, knowing that they do gender
strifes.



We flee what is bad by following what is good.

2 Timothy 2:22-23

- ²² Flee also youthful lusts:
but follow righteousness, faith,
charity, peace, with them that call on
the Lord out of a pure heart.
- ²³ **But foolish and unlearned questions
avoid**, knowing that they do gender
strifes.



This counsel is given throughout the
pastoral epistles.

Titus 3:9

- ⁹ But **avoid foolish questions,**
and genealogies, and contentions,
and strivings about the law;
for they are unprofitable and vain.

2 Timothy 2:24-26

- ²⁴ And **the servant of the Lord** must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,
- ²⁵ In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;
- ²⁶ And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

1. He is a Son
2. He is a Soldier
3. He is a Athlete
4. He is a Husbandman
5. He is a Worker
6. He is a Vessel
7. **He is a Servant**

7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:24-26

- ²⁴ And the servant of the Lord **must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,**
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if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;
- ²⁶ And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

It is not our job to win the argument.
We testify to the truth.



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:24-26

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- ²⁵ **In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves;**
if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;
- ²⁶ And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

Those who deny the Gospel rob themselves of all the good things Christ wants to give them.



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if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

²⁶ And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

It is a gift from God when a sinner is given the chance to repent.



7 Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

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- ²⁶ *And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.*

The road to spiritual freedom begins with repentance.



Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:24-26

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- ²⁵ In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;
- ²⁶ *And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.*



Matthew Henry Commentary

“When sinners repent, those who before were led captive by the devil at his will come to be led into the glorious liberty of the children of God, and have their wills melted into the will of the Lord Jesus.”

Characteristics of a Faithful Minister

2 Timothy 2:24-26

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- ²⁵ In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;
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“When sinners repent, those who before were led captive by the devil at his will come to be led into the glorious liberty of the children of God, and have their wills melted into the will of the Lord Jesus.”

This is the end of Chapter Two



The Second Epistle to Timothy

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Thanksgiving for
Timothy's Faith

Reminder of Timothy's
Responsibility

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Faithful Minister

1:1-5

1:6-18

2:1-26

Chapters 3 and 4

Endure in Future Testings

The Approaching Day
of Apostasy

3:1-17

UP NEXT

Questions to test your understanding of this lesson:

Match the Characteristic of a Faithful Minister to the correct description:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
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| 2. Soldier | b) He is known by his good fruit. |
| 3. Athlete | c) He is gentle to all, ready to teach, and patient. |
| 4. Husbandman | d) He is guided into maturity by someone who like a parent. |
| 5. Workman | e) He is prepared for the Master's use. |
| 6. Vessel unto Honour | f) He disciplines himself to run his race to the end. |
| 7. Servant | g) He is willing to face hardships for the sake of the Gospel. |
8. What are the four generations of believers in 2 Timothy 2:2?
 9. What wise counsel is given in 2 Timothy 2:23 AND Titus 3:9?
 10. What is the "seal" of the foundation of God?

Each question is worth 10 points. Do NOT share your answers with other students.



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