

# Final Thoughts

## 2 Timothy 2:8-13

Part 4 – God’s Strategy For Living Out A SACRIFICIAL Life

Repeat the loop of Jesus’ life and message

Loop: Jesus is REAL and His message is TRUE! vs. 8-9

Jesus is GENUINE

His resurrection proves His DEITY

His ancestry proves He is MESSIAH

His life showed SUFFERING precedes VICTORY

His message is AUTHENTIC

Messengers can be CONTROLLED

His Message is UNSTOPPABLE

This loop keeps life’s PURPOSE in focus vs. 10

Our purpose of helping others FOLLOW Jesus

This loop reminds us of our promised REWARD vs. 11-13

COMMON knowledge among early Christians

DEATH results in LIFE vs. 11

SUBMITTING leads to REIGNING vs. 12

DENIERS will be DENIED vs. 12

DEFECTORS will receive God’s PROMISE vs. 13

**2 Timothy 2:8-13** “Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel... It is a trustworthy statement: For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him; If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us; If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.”

### DISCOVER

1. The older we get, the more our memories fail us. Why do you think that even the oldest and fuzziest of memories remain with us? How can we keep vital remembrances clear and in the forefront of our minds? How can remembering Christ help to encourage us to face suffering without giving up?
2. Pastor Phil talked about the importance of a repeated loop in our minds that Jesus is real and His message is true. Discuss other “looped thoughts” people tend to have. What are some of yours? How do these thoughts interrelate or interfere with the looped idea of Jesus’ undisputable reality?

### EXPLORE

1. Read Joshua 1:7-8. Paul probably observed this mandate all of his days. Explain the paradox that God’s word promised that Paul’s ways would be ‘prosperous and successful wherever he went’ yet he found himself in a dungeon awaiting his execution as a result of his obedience.
2. What do verses 8-9 reveal about Jesus? Why do you think it was important for Paul to emphasize these truths?
3. Re-read v. 9. What does it mean that God’s word is “not imprisoned”? Cite some examples. Now read Isaiah 55:11. Compare and contrast the two verses.
4. Read 1 Timothy 1:15; 3:1; 4:9; 2 Timothy 2:11-13 and Titus 3:8. These are five occasions in Paul’s pastoral letters where he uses the term “trustworthy statement.” Discuss each of the scriptures in their context. Why should they still have full acceptance for all followers of Christ? What other “trustworthy statements” can you think of?

### EXPERIENCE

1. Knowing that the enemies of the cross can never stop the gospel from spreading should give us boldness to stand firm in the faith. Like Paul, do you also say, “Woe is me!” if you don’t share the gospel? What will it take for you to be bolder in proclaiming that Jesus is real and His message is authentic?
2. In what ways have you denied Christ? What kind of denial is Paul speaking of in v.12? Does this apply to occasional failures? What evidence might you present to the Lord that you are not a denier? What will you do to allow the Holy Spirit to access the tendency of denial?

### PRAY

Pray... Father God, instill in me not only the reality of Your Son, Christ Jesus, but also the trustworthy statements that define who I am in Your Name. Help me to endure when I am oppressed, so that I might reign with You. Reveal to me the ways I have denied You, that I might not sin against You. Increase my faith in You, even as You are faithful to Yourself. In Jesus’ Name I pray. Amen.