

Passing the Torch

2 Timothy 1:1-7

Introduction

A. What are the ways we get information in our lives? How can we be sure the information is accurate?

B. Theme of 2 Timothy: *Persevere in the gospel despite opposition and suffering* (1:8, 14)

I. Paul received the faith from others (1:3)

A. He begins with thanksgiving

What is significant about this considering Paul's circumstances?

B. He is continuing the message the Old Testament saints believed

1. How were all the sacrifices of the OT an expression of the hope of the gospel?

2. What was Paul announcing then with the coming of Jesus? (Hebrews 10:1-5, 14)

3. Was Paul's message any different from that of the other Apostles? (Acts 4:12; 2 Peter 3:15-16)

II. Timothy received the faith through his family (1:5)

A. How had Timothy heard the gospel message?

1. What do we know about Timothy's family? (Acts 16:1)

2. What was Paul's first visit to Timothy's hometown like? (Acts 14:8-20)

B. Our first mission field is our own family

How do we pass the torch of the gospel to those in our own family?

(Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Ephesians 6:4)

III. Timothy needs to carry this faith into the future (1:6-7; 2:2)

A. What does Paul tell Timothy to do in verse 6?

B. Why do you think Paul needed to say this to Timothy?

C. What in our lives tends to put out our spiritual flame?

Conclusion/Application

1. The church has endured because God works through ordinary people whom He empowers to speak courageously about Jesus and the gospel.

2. We have the privilege/responsibility of passing on the faith. How do people see us living out what we believe? To whom are we talking to about Jesus?