



DAILY BIBLE READING

# 2 TIMOTHY TUTELAGE

*Tim Blagg*

Read. Ask. Live. Love

# Daily Bible Reading

## What?

Sometimes we find it hard to read the Bible, don't we? At church we hear it all the time: "*read the Bible more.*" But how? Some of the devotionals on offer seem to have less Bible than story. Some of the Bible reading plans seem too big to take on all at once; what should I think about? How can I possibly know what questions to ask as I read through God's word?

It's in light of these questions that these daily bible readings have come into existence! The aim is to help you read God's word for yourself and ask some of the questions to comprehend what God is saying to you today through his living and active word, with the hope asking these sorts of questions for yourself as you read through the Bible in bigger doses that this has to offer. It's a tool, and hence it's only as valuable as our use of it.

My prayer for you as you use these - whether by yourself or with your family around the dinner table - is that God will work through his word to grow you into the fullness of Christ and bring you joy as you come to know him through his word.

## How?

The way to approach it every day (as recommended) is:

- 1) Pray to God; it is his word we're reading, so ask him to help you understand it.
- 2) Read the passage once or twice.
- 3) Go through each question, looking back at the bible to think through them.
- 4) Pray about what you have learned, and live out the applications for today.

## Want more?

If you want more studies like these ones, check out our online database at [www.trinitycity.church/youth](http://www.trinitycity.church/youth) - just follow the links. Alternatively, if you're looking for more in depth bible reading plans, many can be found in study bibles or online. Chat to your bible study group leader or pastor for more information.

In Christ,

Tim

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## **Week 1**

### **Day 1**

- Read 2 Timothy 1

- Think through the following questions:

1. What are the things that “jump out” at you from this text - the things that are surprising or stick in your mind?
2. What questions do you have from reading these 18 verses? Write them down, pray over them and think through them over the next week.
3. One of Paul’s favourite words is “gospel”! Look through 2 Timothy 1. How many times does Paul say “gospel”? What things does Paul say to do with the gospel/ what has the gospel achieved? Make a list.

- Tutelage for Today:

- If this was to be your last time communicating with someone - letter, phone, email
  - what would you discuss? What would you encourage the other person to do?
- Paul’s number one concern is the gospel in Timothy’s life; for the future of the gospel in the world! In fact, it is through some of Paul’s instructions to Timothy that we have even heard the gospel of Jesus Christ! How important is the gospel of Jesus in your communication? How does your conversation with friends and family show this?

### **Day 2**

- Read 2 Timothy 1:1-2

- Think through the following questions:

1. How was Paul made an apostle?
2. Why was Paul made an apostle?
3. Paul says “the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus”. What does this mean?

- Tutelage for Today:

- As followers of Jesus, we often understand what we have been saved from in the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ. Another question which we don’t always ask is what have we been saved for. This is one question that Paul addresses here in 2 Timothy 1. He also addresses it in Ephesians 2:1-10 (read this passage now)! What has God saved you for? What does this mean for your life? Give thanks to God for saving you from sin and death. And give thanks for all that He has saved you for as well!

### **Day 3**

- Read 2 Timothy 1:3-7

- Think through the following questions:

1. Paul says that he serves God with a “clear conscience”. What does this mean?
2. Who else in Timothy’s family was a Christian before he was?
3. What qualities does the Holy Spirit, which God has given to all followers of Jesus Christ, give us?

- Tutelage for Today:

- One of the things about what God has given us - the spiritual gifts He has given us - is that He doesn’t want us to waste them away. For example, in Matthew 25:14-30, Jesus speaks of what it will be like when He returns. He will call us to account for how we’ve used these gifts. For this reason, Paul reminds Timothy to fan into flame the gift that God has given him. And for us Christians, the same can be said. We may not be given the gifts of great preachers or incredible defenders of the Christian faith. But we have been given the gospel. What are you doing with the gift of the gospel? Share it; spread it. Grow in it. Read it and love it.

#### **Day 4**

- Read 2 Timothy 1:8-12

- Think through the following questions:

1. What does Paul say Timothy is not to be ashamed of?
2. What reason does Paul give for why God has saved us and called us to a holy life?
3. What has Jesus Christ achieved through His appearing - His life and His death and His resurrection to new life?

- Tutelage for Today:

- *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”* (Romans 1:16) Not only does Paul write that he is not ashamed, but his entire ministry declares that fact! Paul is not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ. And it’s because he knows the power of the gospel. It is because he knows God - the one who he believes in. That’s a gospel confidence; we know God through Jesus Christ. We know God because of the gospel. A gospel that assures us that God won’t let us go. Take some time out to thank God for this great power of the gospel and for keeping you in relationship with Him!

#### **Day 5**

- Read 2 Timothy 1:13-14

- Think through the following questions:

1. What has Timothy heard from Paul?
2. How is Timothy told to teach what he heard from Paul?

3. Whose help will Timothy (and us) receive to help guard the good deposit (the gospel)?

- Tutelage for Today:

- Paul instructs Timothy to keep Paul's gospel teaching as the pattern of sound teaching. We've looked at false teachers throughout 1 Timothy, and here in 2 Timothy Paul is reminding us of what true gospel teachers look like. They keep to the pattern! But not only that, Paul also cares about how Timothy does this. v.13 says that he is to do this with faith and love in Christ Jesus. God's word isn't just something that we logically defend (although we certainly do that). The gospel of Jesus Christ is something we live out as we defend it. We don't just say "Jesus died for my sins" and continue to gossip or lust. We don't say to someone else that "Jesus loves you and died for you" and then complain about him or her. What would it look like in your life to share the gospel and to live it out at the same time?

### Day 6

- Read 2 Timothy 1:15-18

- Think through the following questions:

1. Who has deserted Paul?
2. Who refreshed Paul while Paul was in the Roman prison?
3. How does Paul feel about this man who refreshed him?

- Tutelage for Today:

- Read through Matthew 25:30-46. Of the sheep and the goats, which would you say Phygelus and Hermogenes are like? Of the sheep and the goats, which would you say that Onesiphorus is like? Paul holds Onesiphorus up as an example; here is a man who shows by his actions that he is not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ! When we realise how great what Jesus has done for us is, the appropriate response is to praise Him and to care deeply for others - Christians and non-Christians alike. What would this look like in your life - to care for people with a deep gospel care?

### Day 7

- Church - Passage Covered:

- What was the talk about?: \_\_\_\_\_

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- What do I need to change? \_\_\_\_\_

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## Week 2

## **Week 2**

### **Day 8**

- Read 2 Timothy 2

- Think through the following questions:

1. What are the things that “jump out” at you from this text - the things that are surprising or stick in your mind?
2. What questions do you have from reading these 26 verses? Write them down, pray over them and think through them over the next week.
3. Big picture time; what is Paul’s greatest hope for all people as you read through 2 Timothy 2?

- Tutelage for Today:

- Paul gives a wonderful summary of what the gospel is, pure and simple. *“Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel...”* (2 Timothy 2:8). Three parts make up the gospel of Jesus Christ; 1/ Jesus’ identity as the “Christ” - God’s chosen King, who was promised in the Old Testament in the line of David. 2/ Jesus’ death, which paid the price for our sin when we never could, and 3/ Jesus’ resurrection from the dead, which promises us that we too can be raised with Him. Are there any aspects of this gospel that you find very attractive? What about your friends - is there any aspect of the gospel which they long for?

### **Day 9**

- Read 2 Timothy 2:1-7

- Think through the following questions:

1. What is Timothy told to be strong in?
2. Who is Timothy told to entrust the gospel to?
3. Soldier, athlete and farmer. What qualities do you think these people have that Christians need to have when we live out our faiths?

- Tutelage for Today:

- Back in 2 Timothy 1:14, Paul tells Timothy to guard the good deposit that was entrusted to him from Paul, and to guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit. Here in v.1-7 of chapter 2, we can see Paul expanding on how to guard it. Timothy was told to guard the gospel by remaining in the grace God shows us in Jesus Christ. Timothy was told to guard the gospel by passing it onto faithful believers - believers of all ages who will teach others it! And finally, Paul tells Timothy to guard it by joining in suffering like a soldier; to be devoted to Jesus like a soldier to his task, to be disciplined like an athlete and to be hardworking like the farmer. *“...be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.”*

## Day 10

- Read 2 Timothy 2:8-13

- Think through the following questions:

1. What does it mean to *remember* the gospel? (i.e. does it just mean to recall that information like “Oh yeah, milk is \$3 for 3 litres”?)
2. Paul is chained for the sake for the gospel. What isn’t chained?
3. Fill in the blanks:

“If we \_\_\_\_\_ with him, we will also \_\_\_\_\_ with him; if we \_\_\_\_\_, we will also \_\_\_\_\_ with him.

If we \_\_\_\_\_ him, he will also \_\_\_\_\_ us; if we are \_\_\_\_\_, he will remain \_\_\_\_\_ for he cannot \_\_\_\_\_ himself.”

- Tutelage for Today:

- Paul’s resolve is to endure *everything* for the sake of Christians and non-Christians, so that they can persevere and come into faith in Jesus Christ. His hope is that they will be saved! This is the same Paul who has been tortured, imprisoned, beaten, rejected and attacked. The only reason he can do this is because of how great the gospel of Jesus Christ is! Salvation in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. We might not have so much opposition as Paul did, but take some time out to think it through. What can you do for the sake of Christians to persevere in their faith? A letter, or a card? Read the Bible with them? Pray with them? Who can you do this for today?

## Day 11

- Read 2 Timothy 2:14-19

- Think through the following questions:

1. What truth is Timothy told to remind Christians of? (hint: what has Paul just been talking about?)
2. What are the qualities of the good workman?
3. What is God’s job in saving people? What is our job in being saved? (v.19)

- Tutelage for Today:

- Hymenaeus and Philetus - those troublesome false teachers - are telling people that the resurrection has already happened. They claim that there won’t be a resurrection in the future. Read 1 Corinthians 15:16-24. Why is it bad for people to say that there won’t be a resurrection in the future? What hope does the resurrection give us? Thank God for this hope that you have!

## Day 12

- Read 2 Timothy 2:20-21

- Think through the following questions:

1. A better word for articles (NIV) would be “vessels” or “utensils”. What are utensils used for?
2. The vessels used for ignoble purposes seems to be talking about the false teachers like Hymenaeus and Philetus. These men are impure in their beliefs and impure in their lives. What does a Christian need to do in relation to these things?
3. What will the result be for the Christian if they \_\_\_\_\_ themselves from these men’s way of life?

- Tutelage for Today:

- Paul makes it clear that Christians need to be cleansed from false teachers in order to be useful, holy and prepared to do any good work. But how is a Christian cleansed from this? Is it all about will-power to be cleansed? Look at Philippians 2:12-13. Who cleanses us? Talk to God about this today, and ask for His help to identify false teachings that are around, and for the strength to be cleansed from them.

## Day 13

- Read 2 Timothy 2:22-26

- Think through the following questions:

1. What is Timothy told to flee in order to be an instrument for noble purposes?
2. What is Timothy - and all those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart - told to pursue?
3. What is the Christian’s greatest hope to be in conversations with those who don’t know God as yet?

- Tutelage for Today:

- Toby Frank, a friend from school who is very blunt in conversation, walks straight up to you and says “I really don’t care about anything that Jesus has to say. He’s long dead and has nothing important to say.” How would you respond? How does Paul encourages God’s servants to respond?

## Day 14

- Church - Passage Covered:

- What was the talk about?: \_\_\_\_\_  
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- What do I need to change?

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### **Week 3**

#### **Day 15**

- Read 2 Timothy 3

- Think through the following questions:

1. What are the things that “jump out” at you from this text - the things that are surprising or stick in your mind?
2. What questions do you have from reading these 17 verses? Write them down, pray over them and think through them over the next week.
3. What kind of people shouldn't be teachers of God's word and leaders of God's people? What kind of people should be teachers and leaders?

- Tutelage for Today:

- Paul continues hammering on about a very important topic for him; the last days. Ever since Jesus has ascended into heaven, we've been in the last days. What is so important to Paul - and to all Christians - is for there to be good, faithful, Bible-loving and Bible-teaching Christians sharing the truth about Jesus. You might not become a pastor or a youth leader or a missionary to the deep jungle tribes in the Amazon. But you can always be a person who shares the truth about Jesus with others. You can be different from the many false teachers around the world. Will you? Pray to God about this. Ask Him to help you to know Him better through the Bible and to be sharing what you know with other people.

#### **Day 16**

- Read 2 Timothy 3:1-5

- Think through the following questions:

1. What kinds of times does Paul say there will be in the last days?
2. What things will people love in these last days?
3. How does Paul advise Timothy to ultimately approach these people (who claim to be Christians, but act in these ways)?

- Tutelage for Today:

- This is a long list of things which sound quite horrible! What kind of people could this be describing?! To some extent, it describes all of us. If God hadn't come into our lives and rescued us through the gospel of Jesus, we would all be described by the words in this list. However, Paul is specifically writing this list about certain Christian leaders in particular, who don't believe the gospel of Jesus. They appear to be godly people, but in truth, they know *nothing* of the truth about God. Their teaching will only lead to people being ungodly. Pray to God - ask Him to protect you from false teachers like this. One of the best ways to protect yourself - aside from prayer - is to get to know the gospel of Jesus even better! You might decide

to read through a gospel over the next few weeks to get to know who Jesus is even better.

### Day 17

- Read 2 Timothy 3:6-9

- Think through the following questions:

1. Paul is continuing his description of these false teachers. What does he say they do?
2. *"...weak-willed women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, always \_\_\_\_\_ but never being able to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_."* (Fill in the blanks!)
3. What thing do these false teachers ultimately do? (hint: it's to do with their approach to the truth).

- Tutelage for Today:

- Nicky Mirage, your poppy friend who loves to sing, tells you that she has just been introduced to a really cool Christian speaker at a youth rally. She says the speaker said that God would do whatever she wanted Him to do for her, as long as she promised to read the Bible every day and give 10% of her pocket money to the church. How would you respond to her?

### Day 18

- Read 2 Timothy 3:10-13

- Think through the following questions:

1. What does Paul say Timothy knows about him?
2. Who was responsible for Paul being rescued from the persecutions he had endured to date?
3. What promise does Paul make to all Christians who want to live godly lives?

- Tutelage for Today:

- Over the last couple of weeks, some of the news floating around has been about Christians from Mosul in Iraq. There have been thousands of Christians who have been told either 1/ become Muslim, 2/ pay a MASSIVE tax, or 3/ get out of our country. Any Christian who hasn't gone for those options (and quite a few who have gone for them) has been killed. This is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to Christians being persecuted. We probably won't face such a dramatic challenge (we might though). Do you think God is worth living for? Do you think God is worth dying for? Talk to God about this. Pray. And remember Jesus, who died for you as you do.

## **Day 19**

- Read 2 Timothy 3:14-15

- Think through the following questions:

1. Unlike the false teachers in v.13, Timothy is told to continue in what he has learned. What has Timothy learned?
2. Timothy has learned the Holy Scriptures (i.e. the Bible) for a long time. How old were you when you first started learning the Holy Scriptures?
3. What are the Holy Scriptures able to do for you?

- Tutelage for Today:

- Have you been convinced of the truth of the Bible? One of the awesome things is that God didn't just write a story or a novel which we need to believe. It's all actually true! Through His Holy Spirit, God helps us to realise the truth of the Bible. God helps us to, like Timothy, become convinced of His truth. Talk to God when you're reading through His word and finding it slow. It's life changing! It's all true.

## **Day 20**

- Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17

- Think through the following questions:

1. How much of the Scripture is written by God/"God-breathed"?
2. What is scripture useful for?
3. What is the result for the person who follows God?

- Tutelage for Today:

- Teaching - telling us the truth about God; primarily the gospel of Jesus Christ and how we can know God because of His work. Rebuking - showing us those places in our lives where we aren't living like God wants us to, leading us to repent of our rejection of God and to ask Him for forgiveness. Correcting - taking things we assume about God and showing us how we're wrong. It helps us to believe the right things about God. Training in righteousness - the Bible isn't just there to be read (but definitely read it!). The Bible is there to be lived. The Bible trains us to live in a way that pleases God by depending on Jesus Christ. These are all pretty great things that the Bible can do for us! In fact, no other book in the world can claim to do all that. Take some time now to think about it - how could your reading of the Bible be any different because of how special a book it is?

## **Day 21**

Church/Youth - Passage Covered:

What was the Talk about?:\_\_\_\_\_

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What do I need to change?\_\_\_\_\_

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## **Week 4**

### **Day 22**

- Read 2 Timothy 4

- Think through the following questions:

1. What are the things that “jump out” at you from this text - the things that are surprising or stick in your mind?
2. What questions do you have from reading these 22 verses? Write them down, pray over them and think through them over the next week.
3. Paul is continually looking towards one particular day. Which day would you say this is?

- Tutelage for Today:

- Here we are at the end of Paul’s last written letter. Take a moment to think through what you would want to say if you were writing your last words. What would be the most important thing to you? For Paul, it’s ending his life trusting in God. What things could you do to help you get to the end of your life and, like Paul, still be trusting in God? Pray about these things now.

### **Day 23**

- Read 2 Timothy 4:1-2

- Think through the following questions:

1. Who does Paul say will judge the living and the dead?
2. Fill in the blanks! “...*in view of his \_\_\_\_\_ and his \_\_\_\_\_, I give you this \_\_\_\_\_.*”
3. What do you think it means to preach God’s word in season and out of season?

- Tutelage for Today:

- These instructions are written specifically to Timothy. However, there is plenty for us to take away as well. Paul was charging Timothy to preach for a reason. It was because the need was so urgent; Jesus Christ is coming soon to judge the living and the dead! There are people telling people false things about Jesus. There are people who will be judged guilty by God and condemned who need the gospel of Jesus Christ. It doesn’t take long to write up a list of people you know who don’t know God. As God’s representative (2 Corinthians 5:20), what could you do to help save these people? Pray about this today.

### **Day 24**

- Read 2 Timothy 4:3-5

- Think through the following questions:

1. Paul says that the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. What do you think this means?
2. What will people gather around them to suit their own desires?
3. How is Timothy to be different to people who turn aside from truth to false myths?

- Tutelage for Today:

- There are many teachers who claim to be Christian, but teach things that the Bible doesn't say. For example, there's a man called Benny Hinn, who amongst other things, teaches "*Poverty is from the devil and...God wants all Christians prosperous.*" This is a teaching called "prosperity gospel". It tells people that God doesn't want them to be saved from sin. Instead, God wants people to be healthy, wealthy and popular. What problems could there be with this? What can you do as a Christian to stand against false teaching like this?

## Day 25

- Read 2 Timothy 4:6-8

- Think through the following questions:

1. What time does Paul say has come for Him?
2. What does Paul say he has done as this time comes? (v7)
3. Look back at 1 Timothy 1:18-19 and 1 Timothy 6:12. What do you think of Paul's claim in v.7?

- Tutelage for Today:

- Paul says that there is in store for him the crown of righteousness from God. Not only for him, though, but for everyone who has longed for God's appearing. So the question for us is are we excited about Jesus' appearing? Are we really looking forward to when Jesus comes back to earth? That is going to be the time when:

*...the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain... (Revelation 21:3-4)*

Are you looking forward to Jesus' return? It's gonna be awesome. Give thanks to God, and remember "*Yes, I am coming soon.*" (Revelation 22:20)

## Day 26

- Read 2 Timothy 4:9-15

- Think through the following questions:

1. What does Paul want Timothy to do for him?
2. Who does Paul want Timothy to bring with him? (check out Acts 13:13, Acts 15:36-41, Colossians 4:10 and Philemon 24 to find out more about him!)
3. Who does Paul tell Timothy to beware?

- Tutelage for Today:

- Here we see some of Paul's most intimate and touching personal requests. He calls for Timothy to come to him quickly, to bring Mark (author of the gospel of Mark) and to bring his cloak and scrolls/parchments. Completely at the end of his life, Paul wants to spend time with people who mean much to him and to the Christian mission. His fellow Christians are his closest family. How could your life and relationships with fellow Christians reflect the truth that they are your family? Talk to God about it, and spend some time over the next couple of weeks encouraging and praying for other Christians (who aren't necessarily in your family).

## Day 27

- Read 2 Timothy 4:16-22

- Think through the following questions:

1. Who does Paul say stood at his side and gave him strength when he was at his first hearing?
2. What does Paul say God will bring him safely to?
3. Paul's final words are "\_\_\_\_\_ be with you."

- Tutelage for Today:

- Paul recognises that his time is short now. But even after all the persecution he has faced, he still has one burning desire and aim. His great desire is that the message (the gospel of Jesus) might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. Ever since he became a Christian, that has been Paul's greatest desire. That's been the beat of his heart. We all have passions and things we deeply care about. What do you think your life would look like if your greatest passion was to see all your friends and family and people in your classes and at work know God and saved? Talk to God about it now.

## Day 28

- Youth/Church - Passage Covered:

- What was the Talk about?: \_\_\_\_\_  
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- What do I need to change?

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