



Life Group Study Notes
“The Kingdom Response”
Ps. Kore Bendix - February 25, 2017

Warm Up (10-15 minutes)

Choose a question below to answer, or ask another. No right or wrong answers.

- Who is one of your favorite older relatives? Why?
- What is one piece of wisdom passed on to you from an older relative?
- What is one thing you'd like to do when you're older?

Word (10-15 minutes)

Sermons can be heard online at www.bethelworld.org

2 Timothy 4:1-5 NIV In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

These are some of the apostle Paul's final words while he was in prison awaiting execution under the corrupt, wicked Roman emperor, Nero. Paul's crime was his loyalty to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of all people everywhere. As Paul approached death, he wrote to communicate some of his greatest concerns for the future of the church.

Paul is writing to his spiritual son, Timothy, who is in the city of Ephesus, one of the largest cities in the Roman Empire. Timothy is relatively young and is a bit insecure in the face of his challenges and opposition. But Paul had confidence in him, in part because Timothy had been so faithful to the Lord and to Paul. A few years earlier Paul had written about Timothy to the Phillipians, saying that he had no one else like him, because Timothy genuinely and deeply cared about the believers' welfare.

In addressing Timothy, Paul spends the bulk of the first half of his letter reminding Timothy of what Jesus has done for him. Then he begins to command Timothy to action in obedience to Jesus. The text above is the beginning of his charge to Timothy.

Paul was essentially saying, “Timothy, in light of Jesus’ great love for you and all that he has done and will do for you, go and tell others the good news of God’s great salvation that he has made available to everyone!”

Our motivation to tell others about Jesus should come from our own revelation and experience of God’s salvation. We have been forgiven. We have been reconciled. We have been renewed by the Holy Spirit. We have been given the hope of heaven. We have been promised immortal, embodied life in the resurrection when Jesus comes back.

All this has been secured and given to us because of what Jesus did for us. He lived a life of perfect obedience to God and suffered for our sins on the cross. He rose from the dead for our justification. He ascended to heaven for our sanctification. And he will return to the earth for our redemption.

Tell others, even if you’re insecure. Tell others, even if you are struggling. Tell others, even if you’re afraid. Tell others, even if you feel inadequate. Tell others, in spite of everything.

As you tell others about Jesus, make sure you emphasize the following:

- The cross, and God’s love and justice demonstrated through it
- Your past and how God has redeemed you from the consequences of sin
- The hope you have for the future in this life and in the next

As you tell others about Jesus, be patient with them. Let the Holy Spirit work on their hearts through your love, your words, and your deeds. He will convict them of righteousness and the truth of the Gospel.

As you tell others about Jesus, be confident that God will be with you.

Discussion (10-15 minutes)

Choose one of the points below, and discuss how the lesson applies to our lives.

- What has Jesus done for you?
- What motivates you to talk to others about Jesus?
- What hinders you from talking to others about Jesus?

Prayer (10-15 minutes)

Pray for any of the following, as well as any other requests you may have.

- Thank God for what Jesus has done for us.
- Ask God to help you remove every hindrance that keeps you from talking to others about Jesus.
- Ask God to fill your heart with love, zeal, and passion to talk to others about Jesus.