

Read

Read this introduction and Scripture together before discussing.

Paul's words to Timothy are about persevering in faith within a world often at odds with the Way of Jesus. Here, he invites Timothy (and us) into a resilience rooted deeply in purpose, truth, and the transformative power of Scripture. For Paul, Scripture wasn't just ink on a page; it was the very breath of God, capable of reshaping him into the person he was created to be.

You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, persecutions, sufferings — what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

—2 Timothy 3:10-17

Read

Discuss the Scripture

- 01 What do you notice as you read the Scripture passage?
- 02 2 Timothy 3v16 is often read alone. How does your understanding of this verse expand when you consider its context?
- 03 Paul gives Timothy a heads-up that anyone serious about following Jesus will encounter opposition (v12). Have you experienced this in your own journey?
- 04 List the ways Paul describes Scripture as useful for equipping us for “every good work.” What other things do you rely on for guidance and strength? What might it look like to truly prioritize Scripture in this way?

Discuss the practice

- 01 Think back to a season of struggle in your life. What Scriptures helped shape and steady you through that time?
- 02 Paul encourages Timothy to keep living in what he’s come to believe deeply. Discuss one specific truth from Scripture that you’re convinced of. Why are you convinced?
- 03 What would it look like for you to approach Scripture as God-breathed, rather than just a text to be studied?
- 04 Paul describes Scripture as equipping us “for every good work.” Where might God be inviting you to join him in a “good work” in your community, family, or friendships?