

No Regrets!

Scripture and Background Information for June 27-July 03.

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Community Group Discussion Guide** to complete the **GOD'S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns using the scripture below.

This week we continue our series, **No Regrets**. Throughout this series, we have looked into how a life looks like that is sacrificial. The second epistle to Timothy encourages Timothy to continue pressing on in his ministry. Paul shows Timothy that in the service of God, there is No Regret because Christ is worth it. Today we will be looking at **2 Timothy 3:14-17**.

Background for 2 Tim 3:14-17:

In 2 Timothy 3, Paul warns Timothy of hard times that will come. People will become self-centered and oppose any teaching about God. Remember, the first two chapters were encouragement for Timothy not to be ashamed of the Gospel. Timothy will face opposition in his ministry, but Paul calls him to press on because Timothy's strength lies in Christ (2 Tim 2:1). After telling Timothy what will come (3:1-9), Paul calls his spiritual son to follow his example in a selfless giving for the Gospel. Paul gave everything of himself because he knew for whom he was working.

In our text, Paul calls Timothy, in contrast to the people who become worse in their behavior (3:13), to instead continue in the things he had learned, the Bible. Here, he shows first from whom he learned (1:2-5). Second, Paul shows the nature of Scripture. It is God-breathed. Thus, it is powerful.

Here are several insights and questions to engage with the text:

1. Paul notes two things that are made by Scripture. What are those two things? How do those things emphasize the importance of the Bible in the first place?
2. Paul uses four uses of the Bible. What are those four uses? Please talk about the meaning of those four uses and how they apply to your daily life.
3. When Paul talks about the inspiration of the Scripture, which Scripture does he mean? What does that mean for your personal Bible study?

Note: Paul instructs Timothy to give him the right understanding and belief about the Bible, but he also wants him to be changed by the Bible. In the same way, we do need not only orthodoxy but also orthopraxy (3:17)! Right belief shows itself always in behavior. The goal of all Bible study is a Bible-driven, Gospel-centered life that gives itself to God's kingdom. Such a life includes NO regrets!

Scriptures for upcoming weeks:

July 4-10

2 Timothy 4