

## Discussion Questions for weeks of April 3, 2016



### **BIG IDEA:**

In the book of 2 Timothy, Paul speaks to a younger friend about the great adventure of spiritual leadership and the theme is "it's your turn now." Paul spends four short, powerful chapters passing the baton and giving Timothy tips and pointers at how to maximize the experience of spiritual leadership. If you're ready to take your turn at the exciting, fun, and rewarding endeavor of spiritual leadership, 2 Timothy is the book for you!

In chapter 1, Paul challenges Timothy to step up and lead. He tells him to not be ashamed of the gospel but to live it out and lead others the way Paul has modeled for him. Will you make the choice to lead or will you live in the comfort of the crowd ashamed of the testimony of our Lord?

### **ICE BREAKER:**

When is the last time you had to wait your turn to do something you loved? What is the longest line you've ever waited in? Was it worth the wait? Why or Why not?

### **DISCUSSION:**

1. What do you think of when you hear the term "spiritual leadership"? How could "spiritual leadership" be one of the most exciting and rewarding things a person could ever do?
2. Look at 2 Timothy 1:7. What does Paul say that God has given to us? Do you typically act more timid or powerful when it comes to your faith? Are you more lazy or disciplined when it comes to your faith?
3. Look at 2 Timothy 1:8. What two actions does Paul call Timothy to? What does it mean to "testify about our Lord" and to "Join with someone in suffering for the gospel"? Give some examples of people who do those things.
4. Why would Timothy be ashamed of the testimony or of Paul? In what ways can we seem ashamed of the gospel today?
5. For the next month, we will be studying 2 Timothy in Wake and in Small Group. This book is all about Paul passing the baton of spiritual leadership on to a young man named Timothy. Today we're going to start with chapter 1. Look up and read 2 Timothy 1 silently.

Journaling is a great way to respond to the Lord and soak up what we just read. Once they have finished reading, pass out paper & pens and have them go back through and make a list of everything they can find in this chapter where Paul charges Timothy to lead and follow his example set forth.

Here is my list: *He calls Timothy his son, fan into flame the gift of God, don't be timid, be powerful in the spirit, love in the spirit, be self-disciplined, do not be ashamed! – not of the gospel or of his mentor, join in suffering, do it in the power of God not your own, teach others the way I have taught you, model my actions, teach with faith, teach with love, and do it all in the name of Jesus, guard truth – that which God has given to you, live in the Spirit, lean on the Holy Spirit to guard your life.*

6. What can we learn from Paul? What can we learn from Timothy?
7. How can we rise up the call of those leading us, and "take our turn now" at spiritual leadership?

### **APPLICATION:** Two Assignments:

- 1) Read 2 Timothy every day this week (1 chapter per day). Journal your thoughts and observations like we did.
- 2) Remember Harrison's challenge to take "My Turn Now" and send him an email if you are willing to take your turn following Paul's example. (watermarkstudents@gmail.com)



## **MEMORY VERSE** 2 TIMOTHY 1:8

<sup>8</sup> So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God.