WHAT YOU HAVE HEARD FROM ME ENTRUST TO FAITHFUL MEN WHO WILL BE ABLE TO TEACH OTHERS ALSO

2 Timothy 2:1&2(ESV) You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

Context

2 Timothy 1:14(NASB) Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.

Be Strengthened by Grace

Hebrews 13:9(ESV) Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them.

James 4:6 & I Peter 5:5(NASB) quoting Proverbs 3:34 “GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.”

Ephesians 2:8&9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.

Colossians 2:6&7(ESV) Therefore as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

2 Corinthians 12:9a But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

What You Heard from Me in the Presence of Many Witnesses

2 Timothy 2:2(ESV) and what you heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

Philippians 2:22 But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel.

Acts 16:1-4 Paul came to Derbe and then to Lystra, where a disciple named Timothy lived, whose mother was Jewish and a believer but whose father was a Greek. The believers at Lystra and Iconium spoke well of him. Paul wanted to take him along on the journey, so he circumcised him because of the Jews who lived in that area, for they all knew his father was a Greek. As they traveled from town to town, they delivered the decisions reached by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem for the people to obey.

Make Disciples

Matthew 28:18-20(ESV) And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

The word “and” is not in the Greek between the words “Spirit” and “teaching.” Making disciples is teaching truth that is to be obeyed, not just teaching truth.

Luke 6:40(ESV) “A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.”

Entrust to Faithful Men

Paul chose Timothy because he was a disciple who was well spoken of.

(Acts 16:1-4)

Proverbs 20:6(KJV) Most men will proclaim everyone his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?

James 4:6 & 1 Peter 5:5(NASB) quoting Proverbs 3:34 “GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.”

Matthew 23:12 “For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Proverbs 9:7-9 Whoever corrects a mocker invites insults; whoever rebukes the wicked incurs abuse. Do not rebuke mockers or they will hate you; rebuke the wise and they will love you. Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning.

Luke 16:10-12 “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches. And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own.”

I Timothy 3:10 And let them also be tested first, then let them serve as deacons if they prove blameless.

Checklist for Choosing Faithful Men

Are they disciples, learning to obey everything Jesus taught us. Is there no obvious sin in their lives.

Are they well spoken of by the church as a whole.

Do they promote themselves, or are they humble, especially in the area of being willing to accept correction.

Have they been faithful in the duties they have been given, are they faithful in how they handle money.

Do they have the potential to teach others.

Who Will Be Able to Teach Others Also

The goal is to make sure the truth gets passed on correctly to future generations.

That means making sure those who will teach God’s Word in the future are well trained in the truth and know the Scriptures well. This means prioritizing people (the Greek word translated men is *“anthropos”* which means human, not *“aner”* which means an adult male) who are able to communicate clearly, especially those who seem to have a gift for teaching.

2 Timothy 3:16&17 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.

Things to Remember

Church leaders and all Christians need to be “strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus,” not trying to grow by slavishly keeping a rule list.

The key condition for experiencing God’s grace is humility.

Church leaders need to focus on finding and training faithful men (and women) who will be able to teach others also.

Faithful people are:

Disciples who are learning to obey everything Jesus taught us.

Are not promoting themselves but are well spoken of by the church.

Willing to accept correction.

Faithful in the duties they have been given.

The goal is to make sure the truths of the Word of God are correctly passed on to future generations.