

A Church for the Whole Family

Part 3: A Church that Reproduces

2 Timothy 1:13-2:2 (NIV)

What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you--guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

¹⁵*You know that everyone in the province of Asia has deserted me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes.*

¹⁶*May the Lord show mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains. ¹⁷On the contrary, when he was in Rome, he searched hard for me until he found me. ¹⁸May the Lord grant that he will find mercy from the Lord on that day! You know very well in how many ways he helped me in Ephesus.*

^{2:1}*You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ²And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.*

1. WE NEED HOLD ON TO AND VIEW AS A SACRED TRUST THE TEACHING WE HAVE RECEIVED.

v. 13-14 "What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus.

¹⁴Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you--guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us."

- Most of us have had someone invest in us with sound teaching.
- We have been given a trust of stewardship from God.
- We must depend on the Holy Spirit to help us keep it and pass this trust on to others.

2. WE NEED RELATIONSHIPS THAT REFRESH US.

vv. 16b "...because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains."

- In our lives, we have both draining and refreshing relationships.
- We need close friends who see us as we really are, and love us anyway.
- We all need someone in our lives that will go the extra mile for us.

3. WE NEED TO FIND SOMEONE TO MENTOR.

v. 2 "And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others."

- The gospel is always one generation away from extinction.
- Just as we need someone who invests in us, we in turn invest in someone else.
- We don't just look for spiritual children, but spiritual grandchildren.

Being a part of God's Family means that we get to participate in God's process of passing on truth from one generation to the next.