# Paul's Second Letter to Timothy – Lesson 8
# 2 Timothy 4:9-22

> *...the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed...*
> *2 Timothy 4:17*

The final paragraphs of Paul's letter reveal Paul's love for his friends, his personal needs, and his heart of forgiveness and compassion. Paul awaits his execution, yet he is remarkably free from fear, regrets, or sadness. He will soon be in the presence of his Savior, and the joy of eternal life will satisfy his soul.

1. For context, read ***all*** of 2 Tim. chapter 4 ***Paul sends his final thoughts***
   a. As you reflect on your study this semester, how would you explain how Paul is able to be so calm about his impending death? What considerations contribute to his unfailing peace and joy? Take your time and gather your thoughts on this question.

   b. ***For personal application:*** If you knew with certainty that you would die one year from today, how would you shape your life going forward so that you could make the same claim that Paul made in 2 Timothy 4:7: *"I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith."*

c. ***For personal reflection:*** Our time is more valuable than our money or our possessions. We all are allotted only 24 hours each day, and only 365 days each year. Just as we can spend money, invest money, and waste money; we can also spend time, invest time, and waste time. You pay attention to your back account, but have you taken a look at your time account? Are there areas where you would make changes in your life in order to reap the highest return on your investment of time?

   i. Would you choose to invest more time in prayer? How may you make that happen?

   ii. Would you choose to invest more time in your spiritual growth? How may you make that happen?

   iii. Should you be investing more time in passing on your faith to your friends and neighbors? What strategy could you employ to make that happen?

   iv. Have you given appropriate priority to the spiritual commitment of your children? How can you communicate to them the fact that their spiritual growth is far more important than their athletic skills or their academic progress?

2. Read 2 Timothy 4:9-15 ***Paul passes the baton to Timothy***

   a. In his final days, Paul would certainly have appreciated the presence of beloved friends; nevertheless, Paul is more concerned about the work of the ministry than the wishes of the apostle. In 4:9-15, Paul informs Timothy of the ongoing work of their colleagues in the service of the gospel. Paul mentions seven men in this section. What do you observe about the faithfulness of these men?

   b. Paul asks Timothy to bring him his cloak and his reading/writing materials. In 2 Tim. 4:21, he urges Timothy to come before winter. What does this request reveal about Paul's physical situation, his mood and his priorities?

3. Read 2 Timothy 4:19-22 ***Paul closes with final greetings***

   a. What do you observe from this final chapter about Paul's care and concern for the community of faith?

   b. ***For personal application:*** What do you believe Jesus would want you to apply to your life as a result of being a part of this study of 2 Timothy?

***My Prayer:***

*Father, I pray that You would be*
*present and powerful in my life,*
*and that You would strengthen me to serve you faithfully.*