

How to Align Your Life

Series: Fan Into Flame (2 Timothy)

Life Group Discussion Guide

I. Welcome & Getting to Know One Another

Share a time you can recall feeling lost or disoriented.

II. Centering

Take a quiet moment to center your soul on God's presence. Have one member read the following Scripture aloud slowly, 3 times, after which they may lead in an opening prayer for the group time. Others may close their eyes or take a deep breath and prayerfully listen and allow the words to speak to them.

Psalm 32:8

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

III. Exploring

This week we are continuing engaging the Biblical Book called "2nd Timothy." Paul, an apostle, is writing to younger Timothy who has been his spiritual "son" and faithful co-worker. Paul is now in prison in Rome and anticipates these are his final days.

1. In the previous section, Paul had told Timothy that "in these last days, people will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, ... proud...and abusive." Now he encourages Timothy to realize that he has what he needs to navigate his life amidst such a world. Have someone read aloud the following next section while all follow the text:

2 Timothy 3:10-13

You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, ¹¹ persecutions, sufferings—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. ¹² In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³ while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

Having just spoken of those who are false in their lives and teaching, why might Paul now shift with the words "You however..." (3:10)?

2. As Paul now comes to what appears to be the end of his life, what does he encourage Timothy to realize he has that will help guide him?
3. What stands out to you about their relationship? And how does that speak to your life?

4. Have someone read aloud the following next section while all follow the text:

2 Timothy 3:14-17

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

5. Paul shifts from encouraging Timothy about what he has learned by example, to how others have provided a knowledge of the Holy Scriptures.
6. How does Paul describe the source of the Scriptures? What might this imply about how we should read the Bible?
7. How does Paul describe the purpose of the Scriptures? What might this imply about how we should read the Bible?

IV. Ending

Break into smaller groups of two or three. Share one area of your life where you feel challenged to live out the teachings from today's discussion. Pray for each other, asking for God's guidance, wisdom, and strength to live faithfully in these last days; embodying the teachings of Paul to Timothy.