

*Proclaim the Message*

*Living the Liturgical Year*

**2 Timothy 3:14-4:5**

**EXPLORING THE SERMON**

- \* What did you hear?
- \* What did you think or feel about what you heard?
- \* What is one thing you can take away from the sermon this week?

**KEY VERSES**

*But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. **2 Tim. 3:14-17***

*In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. **2 Tim. 4:1-5***

**REFLECTION**

In our faith tradition, we believe that scripture is the unique and authoritative word of God. Our worship services and discipleship initiatives are all built around scripture, and we believe we are called to change the patterns of our life according to how it specifically calls us. **When you have faced adversity or indecision, how has scripture led or trained you? What practices are currently helping teach and train you in righteousness, and equipping you for good works (v. 16-17)?**

In the second half of our scripture passage, Paul describes how myths and bending scripture to suit our desires cause us to turn away from listening to the truth (v. 3-4). We can be part of breaking down myths such as individualism and political polarization even when we disagree, by following the gospel call to love each other and the city around us first and foremost. Instead of keeping the different parts of our lives separate, the gospel calls us to live as whole people, proclaiming the good news. **How can taking our faith everywhere we live, work, and play be the most evangelical thing we can do? How can you better live out your faith in the secular parts of your life?**

Believing in a God who provides can free us from financial frugality and help us lean in to how God's word calls us. **How do these words from Paul help provide us with a structure for Covenant's mission and our own individual calling? How might you be called to exhibit extravagant generosity during this pledge season?**