

Point Group Notes

Message from 10/20/24

Leaders Guide

Leaders Notes are in RED

1. **READ READ READ** – The Final week of Point Groups is the week of Nov 3rd. This is week 6 of 8. Please make sure this is communicated with your group.
2. This week's ministry emphasis is ***MEMBERSHIP*** Check in with your group on their journey to membership. It's God's will for us to be members of a local body. How can you help your group become a member(s)?
3. Almost everyone has their attendance in! But I wanted to remind you of the importance of promptly sending it. Thank you so much for your help!

Getting to know you...

1. What's your *worst* "my alarm didn't go off" story?
2. What's the most 'unready' you've ever been for something, and how did you creatively (or hilariously) recover?

Quick Review – *Have a look at your sermon notes from last week. What stood out to you the most? Did you learn anything new? Did anything said leave you with any questions?*

Digging Deeper...

In **2 Timothy 4:1-5**, Paul reminds Timothy to stay faithful in his ministry. He tells him to preach the Word, no matter the circumstances, and to correct, challenge, and encourage people with patience and solid teaching. Paul then warns that there will come a time when people won't want to hear the truth and will chase after teachers who tell them what they want to hear (*sound familiar?*). Even so, Timothy is charged to stay level-headed, push through tough times, keep sharing the gospel, and fully live out his calling as a servant of Christ.

In other words, Paul is telling Timothy to stay *ready and focused*. No matter what comes next. This idea of "staying ready" was a significant takeaway this weekend; Paul *just so happened* to be presented with a wonderful opportunity to share the gospel, and he was **READY!** Let's read 2 Timothy 4:1-5 together and see what the Lord has for us this week.

2 Timothy 4:1-5 ESV

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ²preach the word; be ready in



Point Group Notes

Message from 10/20/24

season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

1. What is the purpose of this “charge” from Paul to Timothy?

Paul was writing a letter to his young pastor mentee. This is a reframing of the great commission, with a few warnings sprinkled in. Jesus calls us to go and make disciples. A part of “disciple-making” is preaching God’s word, correcting people, encouraging people, and teaching people to follow Christ despite what the world might say. Paul’s ultimate purpose was to encourage Timothy to be *ready* to preach the truth of God’s word even though people around him might disagree and want a cheaper gospel that is easier for them to accept.

2. Paul didn’t just tell Timothy to do something for his health... He had reasons! What were some of the reasons listed in the text?

There will one day be people who will have ears that look for half-truths that will fit their preferences better than the one true Gospel found in the Word of God; there will one day also be people who are unwilling and unable to hear the truth.

It’s hard to share the truth of God when it feels like we are surrounded by people who won’t listen. The good news is that our responsibility isn’t to change hearts. We must show up and share, leaving the conversion to the Holy Spirit. Paul wanted Timothy to ignore the temptation to give up and continue ministering with integrity.

3. Paul was particular in reason and method when it came to the preaching of God’s word. He also included a warning. What was that warning? Do you think it’s important for someone sharing the Truth of God’s word to heed this warning? (*hint: it’s a fruit of the spirit*)

PATIENCE.

We were called to patience. It might be good to speak with your group about what it looks like to be patient with a sinful and broken world without giving up on honoring God.

A pastor once said, “We must talk about sin as if its existence causes us pain, not as if the person sinning is ‘less than.’”

It’s normal to look at our world today and feel as though we are surrounded by crazies, but let’s patiently remember that we are just as much in need of a savior as them and have been called to deal with them patiently! May our loving patience in delivering the truth cause their heart to turn toward Jesus.



Point Group Notes

Message from 10/20/24

What does this all mean...

1. Paul started this by saying, "With God as my witness." Why do you think he was so passionate about this charge?

Paul knew the opportunity for Timothy to become discouraged and to have his ministry weakened. Paul knew Timothy would have opportunities for Gospel work at every turn, and he didn't want him to miss it. Further, Paul understood the urgency of our calling. We don't know when the Lord will return; we don't know what tomorrow holds. We cannot waste time not remembering how to share the Gospel, being afraid of rejection, or losing our patience with those we are called to minister to. Paul was being urgent because this matter was, and is, of the utmost urgency!

2. What is the "word" that Paul wants preached? Define "The Gospel".
Paul wants Gospel shouted from the rooftops! He wants everyone to have heard it.

Really "live" on this question until everyone gets it. The Gospel is the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

By Jesus' death, our sin is paid for. We are all guilty of Cosmic Treason. We have looked our creator in the eye and told Him, "We know better." Sin requires payment, and the payment for sin is death. (Rom 6:23).

By Jesus' burial, we see that Jesus *really died*. There was a separation of Soul & Body. Jesus interacted with death, making his resurrection more than a coma that had worn off but a reanimation of flesh by Jesus' spirit. Jesus fully interacted with death, defeating so by...

Jesus' resurrection shows us that he has defeated death and defeated the grave. Our sin is paid for because the payment went through! Jesus died entirely and then rose again on the third day.

Our Trust in Jesus and his work on the cross is our admittance to heaven, our forgiveness for sin, and our guarantee of life more abundant!

THAT'S the Gospel. Nothing more, nothing less.

3. Put v5 in your own words. What does this look like for *you*?
Everyone will have a different answer. Here are some ideas if the conversation stagnates.

1. Sober mindedness means more than "don't be drunk". Are we healthy mentally? Do we struggle with anxiety in an unhealthy way? Do we lose our temper often? Jesus promises "Life more abundant" (John 10:10) does our mental state reflect that? What would it look like for us to access the help we need to heal this part of our life?



Point Group Notes

Message from 10/20/24

2. Do the work of an evangelist – Who are you sharing Christ with? Who do you have in your life that needs Christ that God has burdened you with? Do you know how to share the Gospel? What's your method?
3. Do your ministry – What's *your ministry*? We all need one!

Taking it Home...

1. How have you personally been guilty of V3-4? What truth of God's word is hard for *you* to hear?
This is going to be tough. Really allow this one to brew and percolate. We can't speak against sin patiently until we recognize the pain it causes the sufferer.
2. How does remembering that we've all sinned and fallen short help us lovingly and patiently (v2) share the Gospel with the people God has placed in our path?
"The truth in love" ALWAYS comes from a place of humility. No one wants to hear "TURN OR BURN" – but the loving message of a need for change from a friend works wonders.
3. What does "being ready" look like for you? Are you ready? What would Hampton Roads look like if we all put this passage into practice daily?
*There are 1001 ways of effectively sharing the Gospel with people. Go on YouTube and look for one that isn't weird, and learn it like your life depended on it *because someone else's does!* I REALLY like the 3 circles method.*
4. How can we pray for you as you work to apply what you've learned this week to your life?

