



be COURAGEOUS

August 5

Opening Up:

- You have heard the phrase “no pain, no gain.” Give a humble brag about a gain that has come through pain? Was it worth it? Would you do it again?

Reference: 2 Timothy 2:1-13

Discuss:

1. What spoke to you in the sermon?
2. In 2 Timothy 2:10 Paul speaks to why he endures the suffering he does. This selfless attitude is an ethic of the kingdom of God. (See Jesus’ description in Matthew 20:26). In a “me first” world, Christians live with a “you first” ethic.
 1. How have you been impacted by a Christian who lives with this ethic?
 2. How has the world been changed by Christians living this ethic?
 3. Why is this ethic hard to embrace?
 4. How is the gospel inspiring you to embrace a “you first” posturing in your life right now?
 5. How does the “you first” ethic also open doors for the proclamation of the good news about Jesus?
3. In 2 Timothy 2:1 Paul tells Timothy “to be strengthened by the grace of God.” How has the grace of God strengthen you and for what purpose?
4. Paul says that soldiers follow orders, athletes compete according to the rules, and farmers work hard for the harvest. (2 Timothy 2:3-6) In verse 3:7 Paul says to think about what he has said. How do one or all of these metaphors speak to your discipleship journey? For example, have you ever prepared for a ministry the way you have prepared for a sporting competition. What would be different about ministry if you applied yourself according to these three metaphors?
5. Do you feel called to any ministry in the body of Christ or on behalf of Christ in the world? How can we pray for that?
6. Pray