

# Faith for the Long Haul

2 Tim 3:10-17

## What can we do to sustain our faith for the long haul?

### When faced with challenges:

#### Remember those who have made a \_\_\_\_\_

You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, 2 Tim 3:10

#### Remember that \_\_\_\_\_

...my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. 2 Tim 3:11-13

Remember the word that I said to you: A servant is not greater than his master. If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you.” John 15:20

#### Remember the \_\_\_\_\_

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. 2 Tim 3:14-17

**God-breathed** – *theopneustos* – inspired, God breathing His own substance into something

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. Rom 10:17

### What scripture does:

- Teaching \_\_\_\_\_
- Rebuking \_\_\_\_\_
- Correcting \_\_\_\_\_
- Training in righteousness \_\_\_\_\_

### What scripture accomplishes:

- Equipped for good works

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Eph 2:17

### Discussion Questions:

- Share who has made a godly impact in your life. How has that molded your own Christian faith?
- Share who you have made a godly impact on. In what ways have you opened up your life and your faith to them?
- What persecutions have you experienced as a Christian? If you have not experienced persecution, how are you preparing for it?
- How can you be a spiritual father or mother to someone in our church family?
- If scripture is indeed the very life of God, why do so many people struggle with seeing the relevance? Or having the desire to read God’s Word?
- What is one way that you have taken God’s Word and applied it to your life this week?
- How has God’s Word taught you, rebuked you, corrected you or trained you recently to be equipped to do good works?

### Additional Resources:

#### Books:

“Through Gates of Splendor” and “Shadow of the Almighty” by Elisabeth Elliot  
“God’s Smugglers” by Brother Andrew  
“The Hiding Place” by Corrie ten Boom  
“Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy” by Eric Metaxas  
“The Cross and the Switchblade” by Dave Wilkerson

#### Movies:

Amazing Grace – Life and legacy of William Wilberforce  
Luther – Biography of reformer Martin Luther, including his triumphs as well as failings  
Chariots of Fire – biography of Olympian Eric Liddell, who later became a missionary in China  
China Cry – story of Nora Lam in Communist China converting to Christianity

#### Websites:

[www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com) Voice of the Martyrs  
[www.opendoorsusa.org](http://www.opendoorsusa.org) Open Doors  
[www.bibleproject.com](http://www.bibleproject.com) – fantastic resource on understanding all of scripture