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## Leader Guide

# Leaders Who Make Leaders

*August 20, 2023*

**Main Passage: 2 Timothy 2:1-26**

## Theological Theme

In the Christian life, it is important to have people you are pouring into as well as people who are pouring into you. Christ followers should take seriously the charge to develop fellow believers into mature leaders and to live as examples of Christ-centered leadership.

## Introduction

? What characteristics do strong leaders usually have?

### 1. Make Leaders (2 Timothy 2:1-2)

As a spiritual father and mentor to Timothy, Paul wrote words of encouragement and challenge to his younger friend that have application to us today. We all lead others. No matter where you are in life or what you do, others follow you. Paul's words to Timothy regarding leadership challenge us to also be godly leaders. Further, we follow people, whether intentionally or unintentionally, so these leadership lessons help us identify leaders we should or should not allow influence in our lives.

? How is being strengthened by the grace found in Jesus different than seeking strength in other things? Where do you gain strength to lead?

? What are three key practices through which you seek spiritual growth?

? Application: How can you be more intentional about passing on what you have learned of Christ to those you influence?

### 2. Stay Focused (2 Timothy 2:14-15)

In a world with many distractions vying for attention, Paul told Timothy to stay focused. Paul charged Timothy keep the main thing the main thing and to remind others to do the same. We can be tempted to get distracted from the point of the gospel, even as we work to promote the gospel.

? What are some things that can distract you from being focused on the gospel?

? When has obedience to God put you in opposition to other people? How do we find the strength to trust God over the opinions of people, even our own opinions?

? Application: What needs to change in your life to help you stay focused? Who are you preparing/training to take your current spot in leadership?

### 3. Prepare Yourself (2 Timothy 2:22-26)

Later in the chapter, Paul got specific about living purely as one who has been equipped for ministry and leadership. He first warned Timothy to flee youthful passions. This can refer to sexual sin, illicit fleshly pleasures, or a desire for fame and fortune. Paul warned Timothy, and us, to not give these temptations any room to take root. He said flee them, refusing to even entertain the thought.

- ❓ What is something you need to “put off” and something you need to “put on” for the purpose of godly living?
- ❓ How have you seen your interpersonal relationships affect your spiritual walk? How does this remind you that following Jesus is meant to impact your entire life and influence?
- ❓ Application: Where do you need to approach others in humility, kindness, and gentleness for the sake of honoring Jesus in your relationships? How can you use your godly influence to help others become more like Jesus and become leaders?

### Questions to Guide Your Group’s Discussion

1. What does this passage say?
2. What did this passage mean to its original audience?
3. What does this passage tell us about God?
4. What does this passage tell us about man?
5. What does this passage demand of me?
6. How does this passage change the way I relate to people? (*How can you use this information this week at work or with friends and neighbors?*)
7. How does this passage prompt me to pray to God?

\*Adapted from Seven Arrows by Matt Rogers pastor of The Church at Cherrydale, Greenville, SC

### Here’s How to Become a Christ-Follower:

Read the following verses and ask after each one: “What does this say to me?”

- **All have sinned:** Romans 3:23 & 1 John 1:8
- **The wages of sin:** Romans 6:23 & John 3:18
- **But while we were sinners, salvation was provided:** Romans 5:8
- **Become a Christ-follower:** Romans 10:9-10 Confess and Believe

### Accepting Christ is Just the Beginning:

Next Steps:

- Publicly profess your faith by being baptized (Matthew 10:32-33; Luke 3:21; Romans 6:4).
- Join a church which follows the Bible, where you can grow in your faith through prayer, Bible study and fellowship with other Christians.
- Get involved in groups for encouragement and accountability.
- Begin a daily personal worship experience with God where you study the Bible and pray.
- Share with others what Jesus has done for you. Tell your story (Romans 10:14; Matthew 28:19-20).
- Begin to live for God (Romans 12:1-2, 9-18; James 1:19-27).

### Prayer

1. Who are you leading/influencing in your life? Pray for them by name and ask God to help you lead them well.
2. What is stealing your focus? Ask God to remove any distractions that pull you away from Him.