

## **Passing the Faith Along**

### **2 Tim 2:1-2**

1 You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. NKJV

“Some years ago, two teenagers were discovered in an attic room chained to their beds, where they had been confined since early childhood. They were totally disoriented and almost animalistic in behavior. They had been undernourished and unloved, and, as would be expected, were underdeveloped in every way—physically, emotionally, socially, and mentally. They were the product of child abuse at its most malevolent extreme.

Equally tragic is the condition of many children of God today who are undernourished spiritually and, consequently, are underdeveloped, confused, disoriented, and immature in the things of the Lord. There are more popular preachers today than at any time in church history, but few powerful ones. There also are more popular churches, but few powerful ones. There is much activity, but little spiritual fruit; much talk about Christianity, but little conviction; high moral proclamations, but little accountability; doctrinal creeds, but much compromise.”

*MacArthur New Testament Commentary, The - MacArthur New Testament Commentary – 2 Timothy.*

We saw last week that each of us has a responsibility to make disciples. Timothy was also to do this. In 2 Tim. 4 Paul give Timothy very specific directions concerning his ministry.

2 Timothy 4:1-22 (NKJV) 1 I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: 2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

Why was he to give such attention to this?

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. 5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

We have reached a crucial time in Christianity. For much of what Paul warns of here is taking place today.

We have millions of people going to churches on Sunday morning but they are not hearing the word. They are given little sermonettes on some nice flowerily subject and are made to feel good about themselves.