

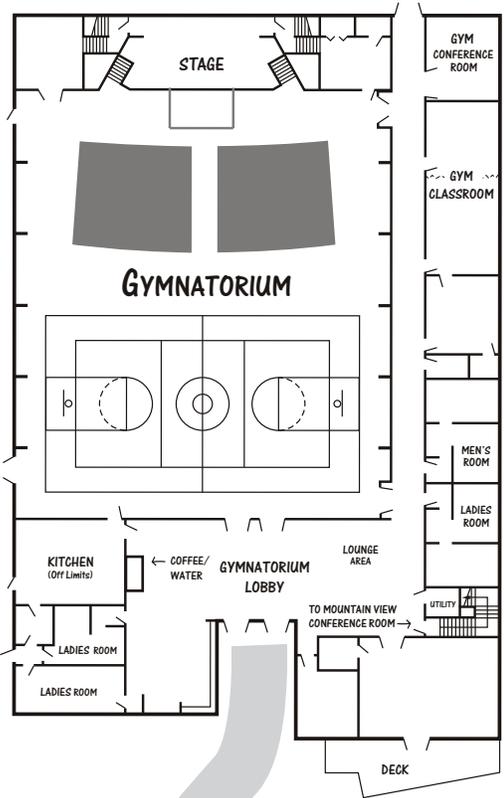
ENTRUSTED

with the gospel



FOCUS 2023

PARKING

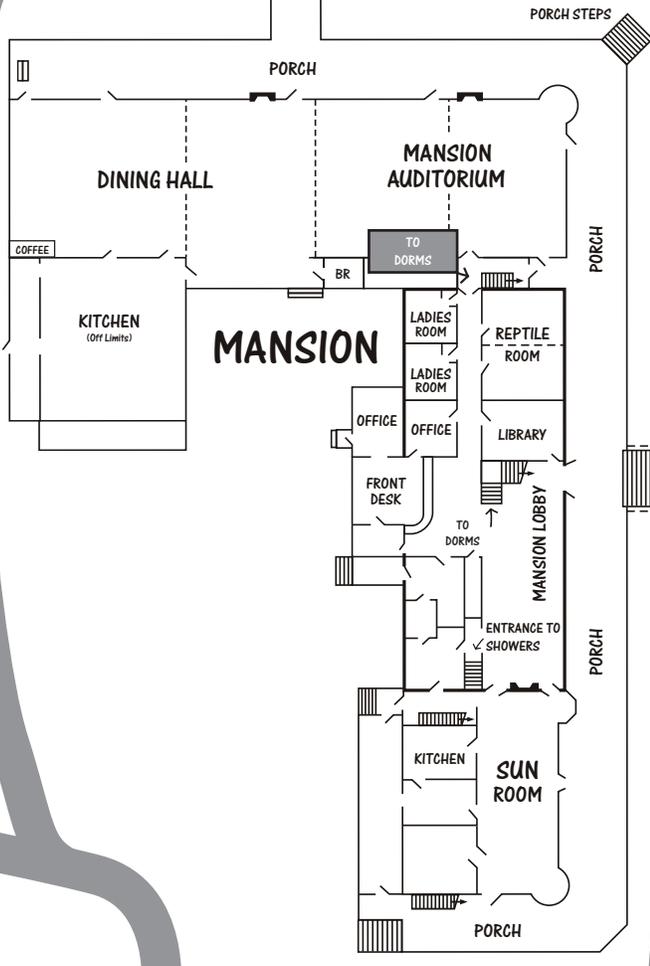


STAFF PARKING



← **TO UPPER FIELDS**

SPORTS EQUIP. SHED



TO LAKE HENRIETTA
(Paddle Boats)
FLAT ROCK HIKE & CABINS →

MANSION ENTRANCE



BEACH VOLLEYBALL COURT

PARKING



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Sunday

4:00–5:00 p.m.	Check-in
5:15–6:15 p.m.	Dinner
6:15–8:00 p.m.	Main session: <i>Fan Into Flame</i> (Mark Fodale)
8:00–9:00 p.m.	Campus time
9:00–11:00 p.m.	Snacks and free time (Lights out @ 11:00)

Monday

8:15–9:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00–9:30 a.m.	Time alone with God
9:30–10:15 a.m.	Main session: <i>Don't Be Ashamed</i> (Zack Gugenheim)
10:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.	DM University: Discipleship 101 – Gymnasium
12:30–1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30–5:00 p.m.	Free time – Optional seminar at 1:30: <i>Why We Sing</i> (Location: Mtn. View Conf)
5:15–6:15 p.m.	Dinner
6:30–8:15 p.m.	Main session: <i>Be Strengthened for the Mission</i> (Brian Seay)
8:15–9:00 p.m.	Campus time
9:00–11:00 p.m.	Snacks and free time (Lights out @ 11:00)

Tuesday

8:15–9:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00–9:30 a.m.	Time alone with God
9:30–10:15 a.m.	Main session: <i>Teapots or Toilets?</i> (Ben Hagerup)
10:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.	DM University: Discipleship 101 – Gymnasium
12:30–1:30 p.m.	Lunch – <i>with your DM University Small Group</i>
1:30–5:00 p.m.	Free time – Optional seminar at 1:30: <i>Revival: God's Extraordinary Work Through Ordinary Means</i> (Location: Mtn. View Conference Room)
5:15–6:15 p.m.	Dinner
6:30–8:00 p.m.	Main session: <i>Life in the Last Days</i> (Mike Kreider)
8:00–9:00 p.m.	Campus time
9:00–11:00 p.m.	Snacks and free time (lights out @ 11:00)

Wednesday

8:15–9:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00–9:30 a.m.	Time alone with God
9:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.	Special Topic 1: <i>God's Good Design for Sex</i> (Mark Sanders – Harvest USA) Special Topic 2: <i>Navigating LGBTQ+ Issues on your Campus</i> (Mark Sanders – Harvest USA) Special Topic 3: <i>Sexuality Q&A</i> (Mark Sanders – Harvest USA)
12:30–1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30–2:00 p.m.	Campus Photos (for EVERYONE)
2:00–5:00 p.m.	Free time (2:00–3:00 PM: DM Minute to Win It)
5:15–6:15 p.m.	Dinner
6:30–8:00 p.m.	Main session: <i>Ministry Panel Discussion</i>
8:00–9:00 p.m.	Game Show Night!
9:00–11:00 p.m.	Snacks and free time (lights out @ 11:00)

Thursday

8:15–9:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00–9:30 a.m.	Time alone with God
9:30–10:15 a.m.	Main session: <i>Continue in What You Have Learned</i> — Caleb Olshefsky
10:30 a.m.–12:20 p.m.	Breakout Sessions: See page __ for schedule and descriptions.
12:30–1:30 p.m.	Lunch – Optional: <i>DiscipleMakers Career & Internship Reception</i> (Location: Reptile Room)
1:30–5:00 p.m.	Free time – Optional seminar at 1:30: “ <i>Fulfill Your Ministry</i> ” Through Your Major (Location: Mtn. View Conference Room)
5:15–6:15 p.m.	Dinner
6:30–8:15 p.m.	Main session: <i>Preach the Word</i> (Dan Hall)
8:15–9:15 p.m.	Campus time
9:15–11:00 p.m.	Campfire & snack (lights out @ 11:00)

Friday

8:15–9:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00–9:45 a.m.	Campus time
10:00–11:30 a.m.	Main session: <i>Cultivate Your Ministry Friendgame to Bolster Your Ministry Endgame</i> (Brian Paker)
11:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Clean up
12:00–1:30 p.m.	Lunch and depart

BREAKOUT SESSIONS – Thursday Morning

Round 1 (Thursday, 10:30am)

How to Make “Meet-ups” Feel Less Awkward

Tori Zbinden | Location: Gymnatorium

Awkward. No one likes feeling awkward. Sometimes we avoid “meet-ups” because we are avoiding awkwardness. Come to this breakout to better learn how to make “meet-ups” less awkward.

“Oh no, *those are athletes...* How do I tell them about Christ?”

Josh Herring | Location: Sunroom

Whether verbally or not, we’ve all recited those dreadful words at one point or another. Does the very thought of conversing with an athlete cause you to shudder? Are you a current student athlete who wouldn’t dare to bring in any “religious talk” amongst your teammates? In this session – geared toward athletes and non-athletes alike – we will consider several practical ways to share the good news of Jesus Christ with athletes on campus (or the local rec team).

Your Testimony: the most effective evangelism tool you’ve got!

Greg Laplante | Location: Mountain View Conference Room

Don’t think you have a good testimony to share? I respectfully disagree and want to prove it to you. By asking the right questions, we will help draw out the heart of the story that God’s been writing on your life so far. This testimony seminar will help equip you to be able to share your testimony anywhere and with anyone.

Round 2 (Thursday, 11:00am)

Addressing a Hot Topic Without Generating All the Heat!

Mark Fodale | Location: Gymnatorium

How can you press into the hot topics of the day in way that promotes understanding more than argument? Join us as think through how to turn down the heat & “turn up the love!”

How to Talk to God About Your Sin

Brian Seay | Location: Sunroom

Adam and Eve immediately hid from God when they sinned. Since then, we’ve followed that pattern of fleeing from God in the event of our failures. Join us as we consider how God, in his grace, calls on us to run TOWARD him, rather than away.

How To Choose A Church

Jared Knorr | Location: Mountain View Conference Room

Are you new to your campus, or about to graduate and thinking about how to choose a Church? Join us as we discuss practical steps on how to find the Church the Lord is leading you to.

Round 3 (Thursday, 11:30am)

How to Memorize Scripture

Megan Williams | Location: Gymnatorium

Have you ever been in a trial and longed to replace your own despairing thoughts with thoughts that are true and right and helpful? Have you ever walked into a discipleship meeting and wished you had a specific passage from God's word that applied to a specific situation or discussion that was on the table? We meditate on God's word not simply because he commanded us to do so, but because it helps us to know Him and to make disciples.

Making Large Group Irresistible

Shannon Fodale | Location: Sunroom

How can you be energized by DCF Large Group? How can you see God's kingdom come to your campus through DCF Large Group? Come to this workshop to receive practical training and encouragement to make your Large Group irresistible!

How to Choose Worship Songs

Ali Hallman & Maggie Enestvedt | Location: Mountain View Conference Room

Hymns or contemporary songs? Lament or celebration? Gospel, rock, pop, folk... There are thousands of worship songs out there, so how do you discern which to use for corporate worship? Whether you are leading up front or singing in the congregation, God has given us a great call to edify the body of Christ through music, and we want to equip you to do it well for His glory!

Round 4 (Thursday, 12:00pm)

Talk to Strangers: The Surprising Way to Image the Gospel & Improve Your Mental Health

Maria Noyes | Location: Gymnatorium

Do you dread going to events where you don't know anyone? Does meeting new people top your list of least favorite things to do? For most of us, meeting new people doesn't come naturally. Come join us as we explore the Bible's powerful vision to meet new people and learn how to practically start conversations with strangers.

A Simple Way to Share the Gospel

Andy Cimbala | Location: Sunroom

When Jesus kicked off His ministry in Mark 1:15, it says He preached the gospel. As followers of Christ, we mimic Him as we preach the gospel today! But how do we do it? Join us for training in a simple way to share the gospel, that you can start using even this week.

How to Lead a Summer Bible Study with High School Friends

Gene Williams | Location: Mountain View Conference Room

If you're like me, you have grown a lot in your faith this year and you are excited to share it with your high school friends (or friends in your area this summer). But how do you share without coming on too strong? How do you lead a summer Bible study that they want to come to? We're going to cover why you should, what you should do, and how you should lead a summer Bible study!

OPTIONAL SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS

Why We Sing

Ali Hallman & Gary Christman • Monday

We do it at church, on campus, during conferences, around bonfires... Christian culture is saturated with singing. But why? Why do Christians sing when they gather, and what does the Bible have to say about it? Dive in with us as we build a theology for singing from the Scriptures and explore how that impacts our “heads, hearts, and hands” as Christians.

Revival: God’s Extraordinary Work Through Ordinary Means

Lincoln Fitch • Tuesday

Revival is a special time of God pouring out his Spirit on his people to save souls and transforms many lives. Revival is something we may long for or even pray for it is not something many fully understand biblically and historically. Together we’ll consider the past work of God that we might be inspired to renewed faithfulness, hope, and prayer in the present.

“Fulfill Your Ministry” Through Your Major

James Osinski • Thursday

Two things are true about your life right now: You are currently a college student (or have graduated) and Paul’s command in 2 Timothy 4:5 to “fulfill your ministry” applies to you too. In this seminar, we will explore the how you can use your ordinary major to answer this extraordinary call.

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the ESV® translation of the Bible.

Scripture references

2 Timothy 1:1-7

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus,

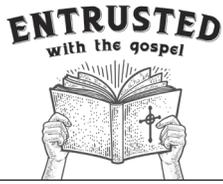
² To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

1 Timothy 4:12-14

Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. ¹³ Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching. ¹⁴ Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you.



Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us ... – *Hebrews 12:1*

I. Remember! (vs. 3-5)

A. "You are not alone."

B. "You are loved."

C. "Your faith is real."

II. Respond! (vs. 6-7)

"... fan into flame the gift of God ... God gave us a spirit ..."

III. Rejoice!

Scripture references

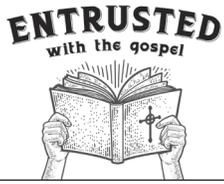
2 Timothy 1:8-18

⁸ Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹ for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, ¹² which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me. ¹³ Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

¹⁵ You are aware that all who are in Asia turned away from me, among whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes. ¹⁶ May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains, ¹⁷ but when he arrived in Rome he searched for me earnestly and found me—¹⁸ may the Lord grant him to find mercy from the Lord on that day!—and you well know all the service he rendered at Ephesus.

1 Timothy 4:14-16

¹⁴ Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. ¹⁵ Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress. ¹⁶ Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.



Main Point: Do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord,
but share in suffering through persevering by God's means of Grace.

I. Don't Be Ashamed (v. 8-12, 15)

II. Share in Suffering (v. 8, 12, 15)

III. Through Persevering "by God's Means of Grace" (vs. 13-18)

A. Follow the Pattern of Sound Words (v. 13)

B. Guard the good deposit (v. 14)

C. With the refreshment of gospel laborers (vs. 16-18)

Scripture references

2 Timothy 2:1-13

¹ You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, ² and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. ³ Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴ No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. ⁵ An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶ It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. ⁷ Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, ⁹ for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! ¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. ¹¹ The saying is trustworthy, for:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him;

if we deny him, he also will deny us;

¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful—

for he cannot deny himself.

Isaiah 55:10–11

¹⁰ “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven

and do not return there but water the earth,

making it bring forth and sprout,

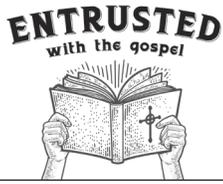
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,

and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.



¹ You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, ² and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. – 2 Timothy 2:1–2

I. The Mission (1-2)

- A. Be strengthened by grace

- B. Entrust the Gospel to others
 - 1. Entrust means to train others to handle it

 - 2. Who?
 - a. The faithful

 - b. Who are able to teach others also

II. The Perspective (3-7)

- A. Self-Denial

- B. Anticipating the Prize

- C. Taking the perspective (7)

III. The Assurances (8-13)

- A. Remember Jesus, the risen and reigning King (8)

- B. The Word of God is not bound (9)

- C. The elect will be saved (10)

- D. We will rise and reign with Jesus if we endure (11)

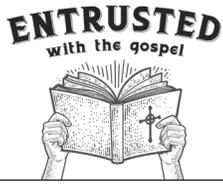
- E. Warning: He will reject those who reject him

2 Timothy 2:14-26

¹⁴ Remind them of these things, and charge them before God not to quarrel about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers. ¹⁵ Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. ¹⁶ But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness, ¹⁷ and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, ¹⁸ who have swerved from the truth, saying that the resurrection has already happened. They are upsetting the faith of some.

¹⁹ But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Let everyone who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity." ²⁰ Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable. ²¹ Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.

²² So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. ²³ Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. ²⁴ And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, ²⁵ correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.



To be a useful vessel to Jesus, you must pursue living and teaching God's Word rightly and flee quarrels.

I. Pursue God's Word and flee quarrels (v14-18)

A. What you must do:

B. What you must avoid:

II. Be a useful vessel to Jesus (v19-21)

A. Sealed by God

B. Cleansed for God

III. Flee quarrels and pursue God's Word (v22-26)

A. What you must avoid:

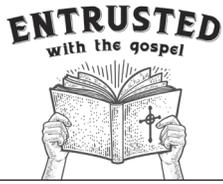
B. What you must do:

Scripture references & quotes

2 Timothy 3:1-9

¹ But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. ² For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴ treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. ⁶ For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, ⁷ always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. ⁸ Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith. ⁹ But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.

“Look...at those hundreds of people whose whole religion seems to consist in talk and high profession. They know the theory of the gospel intellectually and profess to delight in evangelical doctrine. They can say much about the “soundness” of their own views, and the “darkness” of all who disagree with them, but they never get any further! When you examine their inner lives, you find that they know nothing of practical godliness. They are neither truthful, nor charitable, nor humble, nor honest, nor kind-tempered, nor gentle, nor unselfish, nor honorable. What shall we say of these people? They are Christians, no doubt, in name and yet there is neither substance nor fruit in their Christianity. There is but one thing to be said—they are formal Christians. Their religion is an empty form.” – *J.C. Ryle*



“The lives of leaders must demonstrate the power of the gospel. If they do not, ‘have nothing to do with them.’” -R. Kent Hughes and Bryan Chapell

I. Anticipate Counterfeit Christians (v.1-5a)

- A. Dysfunction of Affections
- B. Dysfunction of Authority
- C. Excessive self-importance
- D. Danger to themselves and others

II. Avoid Counterfeit Christians (v.5b-7)

III. Anticipate their Defeat (v.8-9)

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God's Good Design for Sex
Wednesday Morning Special Topic – Talk 1
Mark Sanders - Harvest USA

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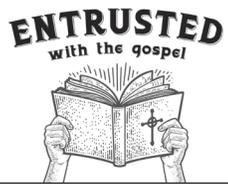


FOCUS 2023

Navigating LGBTQ+ Issues on your Campus
Wednesday Morning Special Topic – Talk 2
Mark Sanders - Harvest USA

2 Timothy 3:10-17

¹⁰You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, ¹¹ 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. ¹² Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³ while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.



I. A Reminder to Continue (vv. 10–12)

II. A Path to Continue (vv.13–17)

Scripture references

2 Timothy 4:1-8

¹ 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: ² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³ For 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, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵ As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

Psalm 103:14-18

¹⁴ For he knows our frame;

he remembers that we are dust.

¹⁵ As for man, his days are like grass;

he flourishes like a flower of the field;

¹⁶ for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,

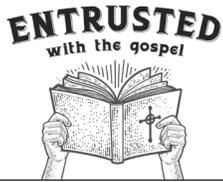
and its place knows it no more.

¹⁷ But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,

and his righteousness to children's children,

¹⁸ to those who keep his covenant

and remember to do his commandments.



“We live in a day of itching ears, but I have no commission from God to scratch them.”
Leonard Ravenhill

I. A Solemn Charge (1-2)

- Don't take it lightly.
- Preach THE word.
- How to preach THE word.

II. An Itching Audience (3-4)

- The word of God will be resisted.

III. A Ministry Calling (5-7)

- Now it's your turn to fulfill the ministry.

IV. An Immeasurable Reward (8-9)

- God rewards those who preach THE word

Scripture references & quotes

2 Timothy 4:9-22

⁹ Do your best to come to me soon. ¹⁰ For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹ Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry. ¹² Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus. ¹³ When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. ¹⁴ Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds. ¹⁵ Beware of him yourself, for he strongly opposed our message. ¹⁶ At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! ¹⁷ But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸ The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

¹⁹ Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus.

²⁰ Erastus remained at Corinth, and I left Trophimus, who was ill, at Miletus. ²¹ Do your best to come before winter. Eubulus sends greetings to you, as do Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brothers.

²² The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.

Proverbs 18:24

A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Ecclesiastes 4:10

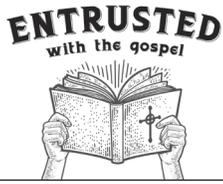
If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up.

Quote

“The same sun which melts wax, hardens clay. And the same gospel which melts some persons to repentance, hardens others in their sins.” – *Charles Spurgeon*

Proverbs 11:14

Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.



Jesus! What a friend for sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul; Friends may fail me, foes assail me,
He my Savior, makes me whole." –*J. Wilbur Chapman*

I. The Need For Ministry Companions (v. 9-13, 20-21)

A. Relational Encouragement

B. Practical Needs

C. Seasons of Weakness

II. The Reality of Ministry Hardship (v. 10, 14-15)

A. Personal Abandonment

B. Gospel Opposition

III. The Rescue of a Heavenly Advocate (v. 16-18)

Scripture references

How to Make “Meet-ups” Feel Less Awkward

Hebrews 10:24-25

²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Matthew 9:35-38

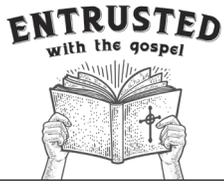
³⁵ And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸ therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

Romans 12:3

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

John 16:33

“In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”



“Christianity is one beggar telling another beggar where he found bread.” – *DT Niles*

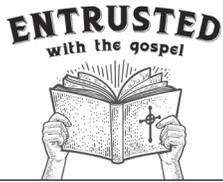
1. Know your goal

2. Believe the Best

3. Bring Clarity

4. Be Humble

5. Trust God



... for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. – 1 Timothy 4:8

I. The Uniqueness of Reaching Athletes

- a. Athletes are accustomed to _____ and _____.

- b. Athletes understand what it means to _____.

- c. Athletes are compelled by _____.

- d. Athletes have built-in _____.

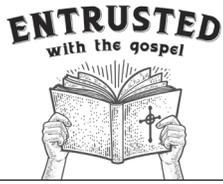
II. The Practicals of Reaching Athletes

- a.

- b.

- c.

- d.



STORIES OF REDEMPTION

Preparing Your Personal Testimony

“Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.” (1 Peter 3:15, NIV)

When the apostle Paul stood before King Agrippa (Acts 26), he spoke simply, logically, and clearly about his life **before** salvation, **how** he met Christ, and what his life was like **after** conversion. Paul’s testimony takes three or four minutes to read aloud in a conversational manner.

It is important for you to be able to write out your personal testimony—not for the purpose of memorizing and sharing it verbatim, but because it helps to put into words some of the important and interesting details of your relationship with Christ. Our individual stories are some of the most powerful discipleship and evangelism tools because they are so deeply unique to us. The choice of the right words, the flow of your story, and knowing how to begin and end are all important. As you begin to work on this, ask the Lord for wisdom and insight into just how to share your story. The following worksheet is meant to be a guide to help you outline the significant highlights in your journey with Christ.

.....

BEFORE

- 1 Before you met Christ, what were some of your needs, what was lacking, or what was missing in your life?

- 2 What solutions for your life did you try that didn’t work?

HOW

- 1 What were the circumstances that caused you to consider Christ?

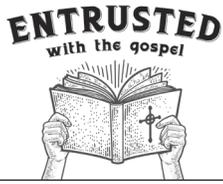
- 2 Tell how you trusted Christ, and briefly include the gospel.

AFTER

- 1 Give an example of how Christ met your needs or how He is now contributing to your life.

- 2 End with a sentence to the effect that you know that you have eternal life through Christ.





Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation. Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky. – *Philippians 2:14-15*

Bad evangelism says, “I’m right, you’re wrong, and I’d love to tell you about it.” Good evangelism says, “We’re both wrong & I would love to tell you about how Jesus can make us right.” – *Timothy Keller*

I. Love

- Love the other person because God loved you in your rebellion, doubts, and foolishness.

II. Listen

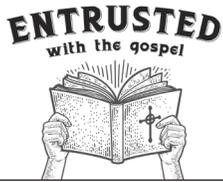
- Listen to understand & not to object or respond.

III. Think

- Explore where you can actually agree with what is beneath & behind the question/objection.

IV. Speak

- State the objection as positively & graciously as you can.

**Psalm 51**

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.

² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!

³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words
and blameless in your judgment.

⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.

⁶ Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.

⁹ Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.

¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

¹⁴ Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.

¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

¹⁶ For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

¹⁸ Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;
build up the walls of Jerusalem;

¹⁹ then will you delight in right sacrifices,
in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Scripture references

How to Choose a Church

Questions to ask when finding a Church:

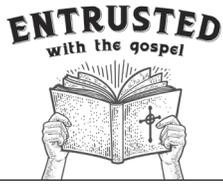
- Is the Bible preached, the Gospel central, and the Mission clear?
 - Do they revere and teach the Word of God from Genesis to Revelation? Do they teach the authority of Scripture as God's revelation to us today?
 - Do they preach the full gospel of Jesus Christ, or a different gospel?
 - Are they people on mission? Do they come together in order to go out equipped into the world?
- Does it fit your personality?
 - Is it a church where you can learn well?
 - Is it a church where you can worship well?
 - Is it a church where you can connect well?
 - Is it a church where you can serve well?
- Am I praying for the church where God wants me?
- Am I seeking humbly, asking how God can grow me and how I can serve?
- Am I making a commitment?

LINKS:

churches.thegospelcoalition.org

acts29network.org/find-churches/

9marks.org/church-search



“The church does not simply have a missions department; it should wholly exist to be a mission.”
– Timothy Keller

I. Why Church?

A. Ephesians 5:22-32

B. Revelation 21:1-4

II. Church Non-Negotiables

A. The Word

B. The Gospel

C. The Mission

III. Church Personalities

A. Learn

B. Worship

C. Connect

D. Serve

IV. Choosing A Church

A. Pray, Seek, Commit, Pray

Scripture & Additional resources

How to Memorize Scripture

Joshua 1:6-9

Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

Psalm 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

SHORT

Psalm 1
Psalm 119:11-16
Psalm 119:105
Psalm 121
Isaiah 9: 1-7
Malachi 4
Matthew 7: 24-27
Mark 4: 35-41
Luke 9: 10-17
John 20: 1-9
John 21: 1-14
Colossians 3:16
Hebrews 4:12
Revelation 22: 1-6

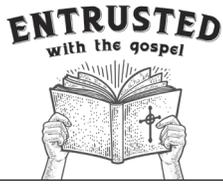
MEDIUM

Proverbs 31:10-31
Isaiah 55
Psalm 42
Psalm 145
Proverbs 31:10-31
Matthew 2
Luke 2: 1-20
John 3:1-21
John 20
Acts 1: 1-11
Philippians 4
Joshua 1
1 Samuel 17
Ecclesiastes 3
Daniel 3
Daniel 6
Habakkuk
Romans 3

LONG

Job 38-42
Isaiah 40-41
Matthew 5-7
Acts 3-5
James
1 John
Really any epistle

*bolded texts are
“motivator texts” that
might spur you on to
memorize more and
more



Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. – *Jeremiah 15:16*

I. Vision: We must meditate on God’s word

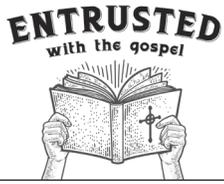
- A. Meditating on God’s word strengthens us and helps us do what he commands (Joshua 1:6-9)
- B. _____ God’s Word is a means to _____ on God’s Word
- C. God’s Spirit uses God’s Word to _____
(Psalm 119:105)

II. Principles: We can memorize in a variety of ways

- A. God’s word spans from Genesis to Revelation so _____ your texts
- B. God’s word is vast so memorize whole books
- C. God’s word is profitable so memorize clear _____ verses
- D. God’s word is given to his people, so memorize with other people

III. Practicals: We must take real steps

- 1. Add 1-2 verses/ day
- 2. Write it down
- 3. Say it at least 10 x out loud
- 4. Use a cadence
- 5. Review from the beginning every day!
- 6. Take a Sabbath
- 7. Slowly decrease frequency of review



“DCF Large Group is a Foretaste of Heaven.”

I. Begin With the End in Mind

II. Be the Person You Want to Have at Large Group

III. One Size Does Not Fit All

Scripture & Additional resources

How to Choose Worship Songs

Philippians 1:9-11

⁹ And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

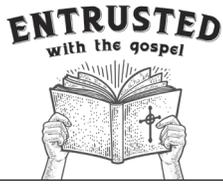
Song Evaluation Tool

Is this an effective corporate worship song?

- Aspects of the gospel story are clearly displayed.**
(creation, fall/sin, redemption, glory)
- It includes objective biblical truths about the Lord in an understandable way.**
- It helps us to engage with the Lord relationally.**
(lament, rejoice, cry out for help, contemplate, give thanks, boast in, resolve, commit, repent, rest in, etc)
- When singing about ourselves or our circumstances, the lyrics direct our attention to remember God's work and character.**
- The song structure and melody is easy to follow and sing along with.**

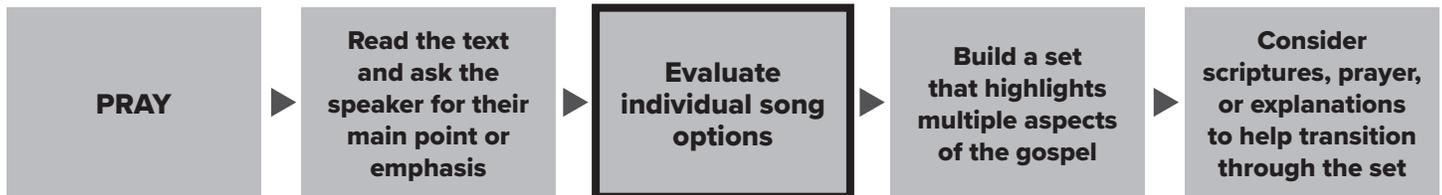


Scan here for a digital version of the song evaluation tool to keep for easy reference



“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

– Colossians 3:16-17



I. The goal of corporate worship

To edify the body of Christ as we express our love and praise to the Lord and proclaim the truth about Him to each other, all to His glory.

II. How do we accomplish it?

Choose songs that disciple! Songs that...

- guide emotions and actions to love God and people more
- declare and affirm biblical truth
- help people grow in Christ-likeness and lead holy, productive lives
- glorify God through dependence on Christ

Scripture references

Talk to Strangers: The Surprising Way to Image the Gospel & Improve Your Mental Health

Philippians 2:3-4

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

1 John 4:10-11, 19

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another....We love because he first loved us.

Ephesians 2:19-20

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone...

Genesis 2:18

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."

Proverbs 18:1

Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment.

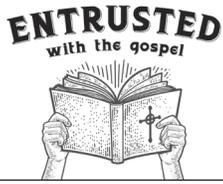
Proverbs 11:25

A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed. (NIV 1984)

Small Talk Chains: Interactive Activity

Here are some effective small talk chains, with the common, but less open-ended questions marked through, and a better alternative following it:

- Where are you from? → ~~Did you live there all of your life?~~ What was it like to grow up there? → What do you miss most about your hometown? → How is your college town similar or different from where you grew up?
- What are you majoring in? → What made you decide to choose that major? → ~~How do you like it?~~ What's been the best class you've taken so far? → Tell me more about it. → What was the most interesting part of the class? → What's been the worst class you've taken so far in college?



*Because we are relentlessly pursued, especially when we are not worthy of such pursuit, we also become pursuers.
We turn toward others and move in their direction. That is how the kingdom of heaven works. – Ed Welch*

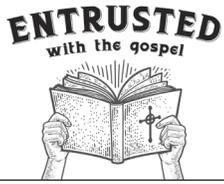
I. The Pitfalls: What Hold Us Back from Meeting New People

II. The Principles: Why We Should Meet New People

Principle 1: Remember _____

Principle 2: Remember _____

III. The Practicals: How to Meet New People



“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.” – *Jesus, Mark 1:15*

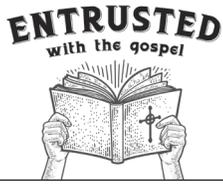
I. Why should you share the gospel?

II. How to do it

III. Let's practice!



Scan this QR code to listen to a challenging sermon titled “If You Share the Gospel” by Brian Zunigha



“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored?
It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.” – *Matthew 5:13–15*

I. Why should I do it?

II. What should I do?

III. How should I do it?

IV. Additional / Miscellaneous Notes

Scripture references

Why We Sing

Psalm 62

¹ For God alone my soul waits in silence;
from him comes my salvation.

² He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.

³ How long will all of you attack a man
to batter him,
like a leaning wall, a tottering fence?

⁴ They only plan to thrust him down from his high position.
They take pleasure in falsehood.
They bless with their mouths,
but inwardly they curse. *Selah*

⁵ For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence,
for my hope is from him.

⁶ He only is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

⁷ On God rests my salvation and my glory;
my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

⁸ Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us. *Selah*

⁹ Those of low estate are but a breath;
those of high estate are a delusion;
in the balances they go up;
they are together lighter than a breath.

¹⁰ Put no trust in extortion;
set no vain hopes on robbery;
if riches increase, set not your heart on them.

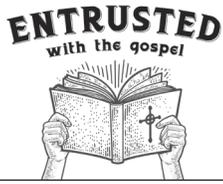
¹¹ Once God has spoken;
twice have I heard this:
that power belongs to God,

¹² and that to you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love.
For you will render to a man
according to his work.

Head - Remember

Heart - Respond

Hands - Reflect



“The reality of God and Christ and creation and salvation and heaven and hell are simply too great for mere speaking; they must also be sung.” – *John Piper*

I. Why do we sing?

A. Why we shouldn't sing

1. To “worship”
2. To access the Holy Spirit/spiritual encounter with God
3. To move God / please Him

B. Why we should sing

1. Song is built into the very fabric of all creation and through all time.
 - a. **From the beginning...**
(Gen. 2:21-23, Job 38:4-7, Psalm 96)
 - b. **Throughout the plan of Salvation...**
(1 Chron. 15:16, Luke 2:8-15, Mark 14:26)
 - c. **To the end and forever!**
(Rev. 5:8-14)
2. God sings (Zephaniah 3:14-17)
3. Jesus sings (Hebrews 2:12-15)
4. His grace makes us sing (Psalm 100)
5. Singing is commanded (Heb. 13:15, Ephesians 5:18b-21)

II. God has created singing to impact our Head, Heart, and Hands.

Scripture references

Revival: God's Extraordinary Work Through Ordinary Means

Nehemiah 8:1–9

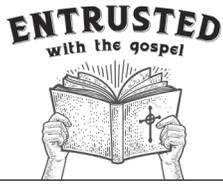
¹ And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the Lord had commanded Israel. ² So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. ³ And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. ⁴ And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand, and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. ⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. ⁶ And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ⁷ Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, helped the people to understand the Law, while the people remained in their places. ⁸ They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law.

Acts 2:36–41

³⁶ Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷ Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" ³⁸ And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." ⁴⁰ And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation."
⁴¹ So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.



“Thus what characterizes a revival is not the employment of unusual or special means but rather the extraordinary degree of blessing attending the normal means of grace. There were no unusual evangelistic meetings, no special arrangements, no announcements of pending revivals. Pastors were simply continuing in the services they had conducted for many years when the great change began.” – *Iain Murray*

I. A Right Understanding of Revival

*beware of revivalism and a reactionary conservatism

II. Preconditions to Revival

III. The Effects of Revival

“The appearance was as if a collection of waters, long suspended over the town, had fallen all at once, and deluged the whole place. For several weeks, the people would stay at the close of every evening service, to hear some new exhortation; and it seemed impossible to persuade them to depart, until those on whose lips they hung had retired.” – *Edward Griffin*

“Our public assemblies were then beautiful: the congregation was alive in God’s service, everyone earnestly intent on the public worship, every hearers eager to drink in the words of the minister as they came from his mouth; the assembly in general were, from time to time in tears while the word was preached; some weeping with sorrow and distress, others with joy and love, others with pity and concern for the souls of their neighbors.” – *Jonathan Edwards*

Scripture & Additional Resources

“Fulfill Your Ministry” Through Your Major

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 2:1-3, 15-16

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ² And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden...”

Genesis 3:17-19a

¹⁷ And to Adam he said,

“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
‘You shall not eat of it,’

cursed is the ground because of you;
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;

¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹ By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread,
till you return to the ground...

John 17:4-5

⁴ I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

Revelation 5:1a

And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.”

Colossians 3:23

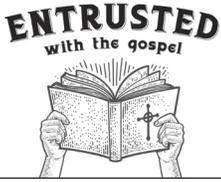
Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men

Quote

“Christian artists, when they do this faithfully, will not completely beholden, either to profit or to naked self expression; and they will tell the widest variety of stories. Christians in business will see profit as only one of several bottom lines; and they will work passionately for any kind of enterprise that serves the common good. The Christian writer can constantly be showing the destructiveness of making something besides God into the central thing, even without mentioning God directly.”
– Timothy Keller, *Every Good Endeavor*

1 Corinthians 10:31

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.



We must think out the Christian worldview's implications in every field, and often those implications are subtle.
– Timothy Keller

I. The Story of Work

- a. Work is good
- b. Work is broken
- c. Work is redeemed

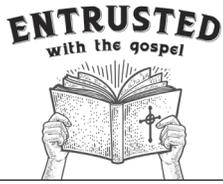
II. A Lens to View Work

The gospel is not a _____ of work but a _____ in which we view work.

- Creation
- Fall
- Redemption
- Restoration

III. Working with Gospel Glasses

- a. All work is ministry
- b. Unique majors lead to unique opportunities
- c. You have freedom



A “Start-Your-Day” Bible Study

As you begin your day here at Focus, spend some time before our morning session to do some Bible study. This will prepare you for the day ahead, give you time alone with God, and familiarize you with 2 Timothy (which we are teaching through in our main sessions)!

Here’s the plan - each day (except Friday!) read 1 chapter from 2 Timothy ...

- Monday: 2 Timothy 1
- Tuesday: 2 Timothy 2
- Wednesday: 2 Timothy 3
- Thursday: 2 Timothy 4

As you read each chapter, think through the following questions (the text of 2 Timothy is provided for you below so you can mark it up as much as you want!).

1. Are there any repeated words or images in this chapter? Any commands or promises?
2. What does this chapter teach you about God (His character, His works, etc)
3. What would you say is the main point of this chapter? Try to put it into one sentence if you can!
4. Finally, spend a few moments praying in response to your time in God’s Word. Maybe you want to thank Him for what He’s done, or ask for strength to honor Him, or simply pray that you would be open to learn & grow today.

Monday

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus,

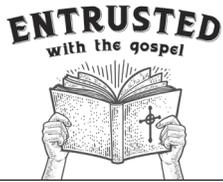
² To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

⁸ Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹ for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, ¹² which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me. ¹³ Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

¹⁵ You are aware that all who are in Asia turned away from me, among whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes. ¹⁶ May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus,



for he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains, ¹⁷ but when he arrived in Rome he searched for me earnestly and found me— ¹⁸ may the Lord grant him to find mercy from the Lord on that day!—and you will know all the service he rendered at Ephesus.

Tuesday

¹ You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, ² and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. ³ Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴ No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. ⁵ An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶ It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. ⁷ Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, ⁹ for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! ¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. ¹¹ The saying is trustworthy, for:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;
¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him;
if we deny him, he also will deny us;
¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful—
for he cannot deny himself.

¹⁴ Remind them of these things, and charge them before God not to quarrel about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers. ¹⁵ Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. ¹⁶ But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness, ¹⁷ and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, ¹⁸ who have swerved from the truth, saying that the resurrection has already happened. They are upsetting the faith of some. ¹⁹ But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Let everyone who

names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity."

²⁰ Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable. ²¹ Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.

²² So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. ²³ Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. ²⁴ And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, ²⁵ correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

Wednesday

¹ But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. ² For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴ treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. ⁶ For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, ⁷ always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. ⁸ Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith. ⁹ But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.

¹⁰ You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, ¹¹ 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. ¹² Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in



Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³ while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Thursday

¹ 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: ² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³ For 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, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵ As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

⁹ Do your best to come to me soon. ¹⁰ For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹ Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry. ¹² Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus. ¹³ When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. ¹⁴ Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds. ¹⁵ Beware of him yourself, for he strongly opposed our message. ¹⁶ At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not

be charged against them! ¹⁷ But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸ The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

¹⁹ Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. ²⁰ Erastus remained at Corinth, and I left Trophimus, who was ill, at Miletus. ²¹ Do your best to come before winter. Eubulus sends greetings to you, as do Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brothers.

²² The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.



DISCIPLESHIP

— 101 —

Scripture & Additional Resources

Galatians 5

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁵ But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another. ¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Galatians 6

¹ Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. ² Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. ³ For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴ But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. ⁵ For each will have to bear his own load.

⁶ Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. ⁷ Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹ And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Reflect:

1. *Who are the people who have most helped you in your Christian walk?*
2. *Who first explained the gospel (with words) to you clearly?*
3. *Who do you gravitate toward spending most of your time with? Who do you avoid?*

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...
And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” – *Matthew 28:18-19*

I. God’s work **IN** you

- The Spirit bears fruit!



II. God’s work **THROUGH** you

1. Gentle _____ of others.
2. Bearing the _____ of others, but not _____ them.
3. An understanding of _____ and _____
4. Considering our season we make _____

“In some ways, it’s incredibly complicated to have worthwhile conversations about things you care deeply about with people ... Part of why we don’t engage in conversations with people who are different, is because we don’t have the emotional energy. Our lives exhaust us. We’re too busy and too frustrated. It feels better to bond with people we know affirm us than to wade into the unknown waters of a psyche that might anger us. It takes real effort and emotional sturdiness to assume genuineness in someone you perceive as “the other.” It takes a resilient naïveté.” – *C. Martin (Columnist, TED talk speaker)*



“We must overcome the obstacle of apathy”

Philippians 1:1-8

¹ Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:

² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 3:14-19

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶ that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Romans 8:38-9:4a

³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. ^{9:1} I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit— ² that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴ They are Israelites...

Exodus 32:30-32

²⁰ The next day Moses said to the people, “You have sinned a great sin. And now I will go up to the Lord; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.” ³¹ So Moses returned to the Lord and said, “Alas, this people has sinned a great sin. They have made for themselves gods of gold. ³² But now, if you will forgive their sin—but if not, please blot me out of your book that you have written.”

	LOVE "As Chemistry"	LOVE "As Commodity"	LOVE As Christ
FEELS	Automatic, "we click"	Transactional / Conditional	
LONGS			
AGENDA			

20 Thought-Provoking Conversation Starters

- What is your testimony?
- What is one way you are struggling in your walk with God?
- What is a burden you are carrying?
- What is your family life like? Are you closer to your mom or your dad? Why?
- What does your dream future (5 or 10 years from now) look like?
- Who are the people that influenced you the most (mentors/coaches/teachers/family/pastors)? How have they shaped you?
- Who are some role models who you want to become more like?
- What has God been teaching you this semester?
- What is a burden you are carrying?
- How can I pray for you?
- What is a scripture that has been impactful for you recently? Why?
- What is something I don't know about you that I should?
- What has your experience been like with Christian community?
- What would you say is your greatest accomplishment?
- If you had a totally free day with no responsibilities or commitments what would you do?
- What is one question you want to ask God?
- What has your prayer time / bible reading time been like lately?
- How have you seen God at work in other people this semester?
- If you could go back to the beginning of this academic year what advice would you give to yourself?
- What are you most looking forward to about the summer ahead? What are you most anxious about?

“When happy, we possess something we love; when anxious, something we love is at risk; when despondent, something we love has been lost; when angry, something we love is being stolen or kept from us.” – *Ed Welch*



“As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” – *Jesus in John 20:21b*

1. Internal Obstacles to Meaningful Conversations

- a. Obstacle: conversations can feel scary.
Solution: in humility put others' needs first.
- b. Obstacle: conversations can feel uncomfortable.
Solution: remember Jesus who left His comfort to bring us comfort.
- c. Obstacle: I have my own issues, how can I help others?
Solution: have Christ-centered confidence.
- d. Obstacle: I don't know how to talk to people.
Solution: learn conversational basics.

2. External Obstacles to Meaningful Conversations

- a. Obstacle: most relationships are digital.
Solution: prioritize in-person ministry.
- b. Obstacle: people are guarded.
Solution: take interest in others interests.
- c. Obstacle: people are suspicious.
Solution: have gentle-loving persistence.
- d. Obstacle: people can be boring.
Solution: develop Christ-like curiosity.

3. Practical Steps for Meaningful Conversations

- a. Pray
- b. Ask “how are you doing?”
- c. Ask general questions about various areas of their life.
- d. Have a specific idea of something to ask about
- e. Ask follow up questions and reflect back what they are saying.
- f. Summarize what they are saying and ask if they agree.



Hebrews 10:19-25

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers and sisters, *since* we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹ and *since* we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but **encouraging one another**, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

1. The need for encouragement: (vs24)

- a. What is implied by the instruction to stir-up one another?
- b. Why does this require careful consideration?

> We need to be _____ toward _____ .

1 Thessalonians 5:14

And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.

2. The antithesis of encouragement: (vs25a)

> Not being in _____ is _____ .

3. The act of encouragement (παρακαλέω): (vs25b)

- a. Speaking the truth about spiritual realities in a way that fits the occasion.
- b. How have people used words to help you in your walk with God?

> Both _____ and _____ are implied.

1 Peter 2:11

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.

Ephesians 4:1

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called...

1 Thess. 3:7

for this reason, brothers, in all our distress and affliction we have been comforted about you through your faith.

2 Cor 7:5-6

⁵ For even when we came into Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were afflicted at every turn—fighting without and fear within. ⁶ But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus.

Romans 12:1

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Titus 2:15

Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

1 Corinthians 12:8

[A thorn was given me in the flesh]... Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.

John 14:15

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever...

4. The motivation for encouragement: (vs25b)

> Jesus is _____ .

A Conversational Case Study

Jack returned from winter break exhausted. His home life was not exactly restful, but on top of it all he spent 2 weeks in the hospital due to medical complications. Jack's ready smile and big personality concealed his pain well as he sat down to lunch with Dom, his roommate and fellowship leader.

Dom: "How was your break?"

Jack: "It was good."

TIMEOUT

Move on, or linger, reflect & love

Dom: Oh yeah, what were some of the highlights?

Jim: Oh... It was good just not having classes and stuff.

Dom: Definitely! So true. How are you feeling about being back?

Jim: Okay, I guess.....

Dom: Do you mostly feel burdens or joys as you look ahead?

Jim: Honestly, I'm not sure. I've been kinda' in a funk.

TIMEOUT

Assume, hijack or ask

Dom: I think I know what you mean, but... what's that like for you?

Jim: I've been having some issues with my stomach again. To be honest, break was a little rough since I was in the hospital. I just don't know how to function being back. Classes are okay and stuff. And my doctor says I'm doing fine. Maybe just.... I don't know.

CONSIDER

How do you arrive at deeper understanding?

What sort of speech fits the occasion?