



# NEXTGEN

BEING AND RAISING THE NEXT  
GENERATION ON GOSPEL MISSION

FIVE STUDIES FROM THE BOOK OF 2 TIMOTHY



## **INVITE**

Inviting others  
to follow Jesus  
with us



## **GROW**

Growing more  
like Jesus



## **LOVE**

Loving with a  
servant heart



## **SEND**

Sending and  
supporting  
ambassadors for  
Jesus

# NEXTGEN

## BEING AND RAISING THE NEXT GENERATION ON GOSPEL MISSION

If you knew you didn't have long, what would be your final words? What's so important that you'd just have to say it while you still could?

Paul writes to Timothy at what he senses is the very end of his life. In 2 Timothy Paul writes "For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near" (4:6). He's in prison for sharing the gospel - the good news about Jesus - that the one who died for sin is King (1:8,16; 2:9). And though Paul has successfully come through one trial (4:16-17), he seems to expect he'll soon be executed.

The letter is therefore Paul's way of *passing the baton to Timothy*: now it's up to **you** to carry on the gospel the way **I** have. The letter begins with the thought of continued service to God through generational change: "I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did" (1:3); "I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also" (1:5). And now Timothy is to emulate Paul himself: "What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you" (1:13-14), So Timothy needs to **be** the next generation on gospel mission *after Paul*. But, in the same way, Timothy also has to **raise and send out** another generation who'll be on gospel mission *after Timothy*: "And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others" (2:2).

So while this is of course a very personal letter from Paul to Timothy, it's also incredibly relevant to our churches today. If you're a Christian, you stand in a long line of those who have shared the gospel before you. It's only because of *them* sharing the gospel that *we* believed in Jesus in the first place. Now it's our job to make sure we share the gospel too, just as they did. But that's not enough. We also have to make sure we're raising up and sending out a new generation who'll share the gospel after us. That means the kids in our churches. That means new ministry workers. That means you, in your workplace and neighbourhood. And we can only pass on to others what we've learned and modelled ourselves.

Each week we'll focus on a particular characteristic that's essential for the next generation to be on gospel mission. Let's pray that through this series we can help each other to **be** ambassadors of Jesus on gospel mission as we **raise and send out** a new generation of ambassadors who'll be on gospel mission after us.

*Bruce Dickson*

*Pete Kutuzov*

*Matt Viney*

*Jeremy Wales*

*Doug Wannenburg*

*Dan Wilton*

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STUDY 1

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## **WITHOUT SHAME**

**PAGE 1**

2 TIMOTHY 1:1-18

STUDY 2

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## **'TIL THE END**

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2 TIMOTHY 2:1-13

STUDY 3

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## **EYES OPEN**

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2 TIMOTHY 2:14-3:9

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## **SPEAKING OUT**

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2 TIMOTHY 3:10-4:8

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## **PARTNERING IN MISSION**

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2 TIMOTHY 4:9-22



STUDY 1

# WITHOUT SHAME

2 TIMOTHY 1:1-18

What's a life lesson that you've picked up that you'd like to pass on to someone in the next generation? (eg Someone you're mentoring at work, a younger person at church, younger brother or sister, a beloved niece or your own kids.)

Paul opens his letter to Timothy by encouraging him to stay true to the gospel he's received. Paul also has a particular 'calling' to encourage Timothy in. But his vital task could be derailed before it gets started if one powerful force prevents him from throwing himself into it - *shame*.





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# IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS ...

## Read 2 Timothy 1:1-18

### **Son**

One who will follow in my footsteps, whose job will be what mine was.

### **Apostle**

One sent as an emissary or ambassador.

1. Paul highlights a number of things that Timothy has been given by those who came before him. Draw a picture that shows who gave him what things. It might look something like a family tree, or a flow diagram or just a picture! (Include a couple of degrees of separation too. i.e Tim got X from A, and they got it from B, who got it from C, etc...) If you find different words for the same thing, (ie, faith and trust) group them together.

2. Paul implies that “shame” is the thing that will hold Timothy back from his job as “the new Paul” (verse 8, 12, 15-16). What could make someone ashamed of the gospel?





