

Community Group Discussion Questions

“The Heart of Heritage” 2 Timothy 1:5-7 May 13/14

Getting Started

The perception of an individual’s significance is usually without the filter of a backstory of the investment of those in the background. Therefore, your legacy as a person of significant influence is not only defined by the tangible qualities you possess, but also the intangible qualities you deposit.

“The Greatest legacy is NOT what we leave FOR people, but what we leave IN people” – House of Belonging

Who is someone who has left a great legacy and why? (It could be a spiritual legacy, political, sports, business, education, etc.)

Going Deeper

The Apostle Paul invested his life in many men, one of whom was Timothy. As Paul mentored Timothy, Timothy began to earn a great reputation as a follower of Christ and leader of people. Acts 16:2 tells us, “He (Timothy) was well spoken of by the brothers at Lystra and Iconium.”

Possessing a Heart of Heritage is recognizing and maximizing your influence by passing down “Faith” that is:

1. A **Sincere Faith**: “I am reminded of your sincere faith” (2 Tim. 1:5)

A. A Memory was Created: “reminded”

B. The Message was Consistent: “sincere”

- The word “sincere” is to be without pretense, to be genuine or sincere, un-hypocritical. It comes from the world of pottery, where some artisans would have pottery that formed cracks as it dried, and they tried to hide the imperfection by putting wax over the cracks. If a hot liquid was poured in the pottery, it would melt the wax and reveal the flaw, exposing the truth that the pottery could not be trusted to

fulfill its function. So, the idea of being sincere meant 'without wax' or without deception. To call someone sincere meant that when they spoke, you could absolutely count on the words they said to be true. There was no shading of the truth, telling half-truths, or subtle deceptions in their words.

Timothy had earned this reputation as being a man of sincerity.

Is there someone in your life who models this virtue?

How would you need to adjust your speech to become known as someone like this?

How would you need to live out your faith to be called sincere?

2. A **Sacrificial Faith**: "a faith that dwelt first" (2 Tim. 1:5)

- A. A Choice of Confession: "dwelt"
- B. The Cost of Chronology: "first"

Who were the top 3-5 people who invested in your life and helped you become who you are today? Why were they influential?

- The combinations of these two words "dwelt" and "first" reveals that legacy has to begin somewhere, so let it begin with you.

Knowing what they did for you, how are you also investing in a younger generation to build into someone else?

3. A **Secure Faith**: "I am sure, dwells in you as well" (2 Tim. 1:5)

- A. A Remark of Confidence: "sure"
- B. A Replicated Commitment: "dwells"

- The repetition of the word "dwelt or dwells" stresses that something was passed on, deposited, or invested that was similar or exact.

Timothy's grandmother and mother invested their faith into him. The Apostle Paul invested his faith into Timothy. Timothy saw faith lived out in a way that was undeniable from significant people in his life.

If this is true, what is the best method or way for you to keep growing in your faith and inspire the next generation to own their faith?

(possible answer: live in a multi-generational spiritual community, where faith is discussed, lived out, challenged, and encouraged.)

Is attending worship services enough to produce this kind of commitment? *(possible answer: No, no one gets disciplined from the stage.)*

Are you living in a community like this right now? If not, what's holding you back?

4. A **Sound Faith**: "and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings..." (**Read 2 Tim. 3:14-17**)

A. Recipient of Training: "childhood"

B. Responsible to Train: "acquainted"

These verses are profound! Do you see the pattern? Timothy is convinced of the truths of Christianity because he learned them from people (Grandmother, Mother, and Paul) who really believed them and lived them out in front of him.

In addition, the Bible (sacred writings) gives wisdom that leads to salvation.

How much time do you spend reading and studying the Bible?

Do your children see you doing this?

Are you teaching them how to read and study the Bible for themselves?

Take-Away:

Open your heart in compassion

Open your home in hospitality

Open your hands in sacrifice

Group Prayer Requests

Pray for the CBC church family to be especially responsive as Pastor Ed leads us in a new series on Radical Generosity.