

**Session Two**  
**SEVEN ADDITIONAL CHARGES, COMMANDS**  
**OR MANDATES TO A LEADER**  
**From the Epistle of 2 Timothy**

In his second epistle to Timothy, Paul charged or mandated him with at least seven additional responsibilities (and as many as twelve) beyond those studied in the first session. As you learned in the first session, the word “charge” (“paraggelia” G38520) in its original Greek means this:

To command or give strict orders; to provide instruction (on how to do what Timothy was given authority to do) or to receive a mandate

(A mandate is to give someone authority and require that they act to fulfill it. It's an official order.)

**First Additional Charge, Command or Mandate:**  
**“STIR UP THE GIFT OF GOD.”**

**2 TIMOTHY 1:6-7**

Paul commanded Timothy to “stir up the gift of God.” The original Greek word the apostle used for “stir up” was “anazopureo.” It occurs only in this one passage of Scripture. It means to take a dying flame and breath life into it so it becomes strong again. Timothy was to fan the flames of his zeal for Jesus into action. He was to be determined and aggressive in the use of his spiritual gift. It's part of the warfare for God's kingdom to which Timothy had committed his life. Paul reminded him not to be fearful, but to remember that God had given him a spirit of “power and love and of a sound mind.” The Holy Spirit is speaking the same thing to us. Be sure you stir up your spiritual gift. Let the zeal for God cause the flames in your heart to come to life and burn brightly!

**Second Additional Charge, Command or Mandate:**  
**“HOLD FAST.”**

It's illuminating to remember that Nero was in office when Paul gave Timothy these five charges.

## **2 TIMOTHY 1:13**

Timothy was to “hold fast to a particular “pattern” of determined behavior that he heard about from Paul. This was a pattern of “sound words.” Proverbs 18:21 says, “Death and life are in the power of the tongue and those who love it will eat its fruit.” Timothy was “charged” with speaking words of truth, filled with “faith and love, which are in Christ Jesus.”

Imagine what your life and those around you would be like if you only held fast to a pattern of these particular kinds of words! There would be no room for the devil, only an opportunity for grace.

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### **Third Additional Charge, Command or Mandate: “BE STRONG IN THE GRACE.”**

## **2 TIMOTHY 2:1-5**

Chapter Two introduces us to Paul’s understanding of Timothy’s humanity with all its weaknesses. Paul knew that to engage in warfare successfully requires encouragement and the need to act according to the rules of warfare that God established. We do not wrestle against flesh and blood. Therefore, we cannot war as if our enemy was carnal and not spiritual. This is a tough battle. However, we win if we wage warfare according to God’s Word. Let’s relate this to the people around us.” Paul told Timothy to “be strong in the grace that is in you in Christ Jesus.” This is our key to success. God has given you grace to win the battle. Grace includes whatever you need to be like Jesus toward others.

- It may take sacrifice.
- It will take love.
- It will take understanding of weaker brothers and sisters.
- It will also take your willingness to have the heart and mind of Christ as you reject the world’s ways and embrace the ways of God.

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### **Fourth Additional Charge, Command or Mandate:**

## “BE DILIGENT... RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH.”

### 2 TIMOTHY 2:15

This verse reveals how vital it is to properly handle the Scriptures. They are truth and life. They should be the foundations of every decision and action we take. Paul commanded Timothy, and now, the Holy Spirit commands us, to be diligent in our relationship with God’s Word. We are never to be casual or sloppy in our interpretation of what God is saying through His Word.

The International Bible Version of 2 Timothy 2:15 says, “Do your best to present yourself to God as an approved worker who has nothing to be ashamed of, handling the word of truth with precision.” We are to do our best and be as precise as we can with our interpretation of God’s Word. To handle the word of truth with precision or “rightly divide” (NKJV) means, “to cut straight or handle correctly and teach rightly.” In the original Greek language, the word is “orthotomeo.”<sup>1</sup>

“...with precision”

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### Fifth Additional Charge, Command or Mandate: “CONTINUE.”

### 2 TIMOTHY 3:14-15

Paul is clear that Timothy is to continue his calling and task to the end. He is to be completely dedicated to the work of the ministry that he has learned from Paul. He is to honor and respect the truth that Paul taught him. He is not to be moved away from this truth, but to be zealous to live it and present it to others. He is not to stray from this truth into any other doctrines.

Verses 16-17 explain the value of Scripture to effectively equip us for our calling to do “every good work.”

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Please go to the next page.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://biblehub.com/greek/3718.htm>

**Sixth Additional Command or Mandate:  
“PREACH THE WORD.”**

**2 TIMOTHY 4:1-2**

People cannot be set free and given entrance into God’s kingdom unless someone tells them about Jesus. Paul encouraged Timothy to speak the truth about Christ at every opportunity. Timothy was to be ready and prepared to do this. We are given the same command. God’s Word must be strong inside of us. We are to have the skills, motivation and desire to patiently “convince, rebuke [and] exhort” people, as we teach them about Christ and the salvation He has won for those who will believe. To do this, they must hear the message. Are you able and wanting to be His messenger?

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**Seventh Additional Command or Mandate:  
“BE WATCHFUL IN ALL THINGS.”**

**2 TIMOTHY 4:3-5**

These verses are a continuation of Paul’s command to preach the Word (2 Timothy 4:1-2). Paul encouraged Timothy to exercise discernment concerning his situation, as he labored to preach the Gospel. There would be those who opposed him and would be a danger to him. There would also be those who opposed him and would do their best to stop others from hearing. In addition, Timothy was to be watchful for opportunities that he could take advantage of to introduce others to Christ. The lesson is clear. We are to be like Timothy and use the same discernment in our presentation of the Gospel.

Wrapped into this seventh charge is Paul’s encouragement to Timothy (and therefore, to you) to “endure afflictions,” to work at what your ministry demands, and finally, to be found faithful as you “fulfill your ministry.”

Bless His holy name. Amen.

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