



## **Live Your Calling Session 8** **Sustaining Spiritual Maturity** **Discussion Guide**

### **Verse of the week to focus on and memorize:**

*2 Timothy 2:3-4 Endure suffering along with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. Soldiers don't get tied up on the affairs of civilian life, for then they cannot please the officer who enlisted them.*

What struck you about the message this weekend? How did your weekly challenge go last week, were you able to do something for your first love "Jesus"?

Talk about a time in your life when you had to endure suffering? What did you have to sacrifice? What did you have to do? (This is not a one upper game)

### **Engaging the text**

*As a group carefully read 2 Timothy 2:1-14*

- In This passage Paul is writing Timothy, what is the overall message Paul is trying to tell Timothy?
- From where should Timothy draw his strength? (v.1)
- Look through the passage again, does Paul tell Timothy to do?
- What is Paul willing to "suffer anything" for?

### **Connecting it to your life**

- What are ways you can be strong through the grace of God? What does that mean to you? What are some areas you need to be strengthened in?
- Look to verse 4. What are some ways in which we get caught up in civilian affairs? Give examples. Why do you think it is so easy for us to get so caught up in other affairs that have nothing to do with God's affairs?
- In verse 9 Paul describes being in chains like a criminal. Even though Paul was talking about literal chains, what are some chains that hold people down? Take it to a personal level, what are some chains that hold you down? What does Paul say cannot be chained down?
- How can you apply verses 12-13 to your life?
- As a group discuss verse 14? What is useless? Who will it ruin? Talk about a relationship you have seen ruined over people "fighting over words"? Why is this verse important advice for us to remember within our homes, jobs, and especially at Church?

### **Serving others through what you know**

- Challenge of the week: this week when **you** face a difficult situation or come across **someone** who is going through a difficult situation, share 2 Timothy 2:1 or 2 Timothy 2:3-4 with them and take a moment to stop and pray.

**Be prepared to share next week what happened when you stopped, refocused on God and prayed. Share Prayer request and Praises. Don't forget to pray that each of you would be able to Endure and run the race we have before us!**