



2 Timothy 2:8-13

STAYING FOCUSED ON JESUS CHRIST

At His birth, He was given two names, "Jesus" (Matthew 1:21) and "Immanuel" (Matthew 1:22-23). "Jesus" means "Savior," and He was called that all His earthly life. But "Immanuel" means "God with us," and it's more appropriate now than ever. Standing on the mountain in His resurrection body, ready to go back to heaven, Jesus said something He'd never said before: "I will be with you always" (Matthew 28:20). He is with you right now, as you read this. Fix your eyes on Him. The light of Christ surrounds you. The love of Christ enfolds you. The power of Christ protects you. The presence of Christ watches over you. Wherever you are, Christ is... In all your struggles and temptations, fix your eyes on the resurrected Jesus!

—Anne Ortlund, *Fix Your Eyes on Jesus*

2 Timothy is Paul's final exhortation to his spiritual son, Timothy, before he is executed by the Roman Empire under the reign of Nero.

Paul has given Timothy eight specific commands up to this point:

1. Do not be ashamed of the gospel (1:8)
2. Share with me in suffering for the gospel (1:8)
3. Hold tightly to the truth of the gospel (1:13)
4. Guard tenaciously the treasure of the gospel (1:14)
5. Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus (2:1)
6. Commit the truths of the gospel to faithful people (2:2)
7. Endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ (2:3)
8. Consider what I say (2:7)

Paul's ninth command is at the root of all his other commands...

REMEMBER JESUS CHRIST!

- Focusing on Jesus is a _____ practice.

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I have asked one thing from the Lord; it is what I desire: to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, gazing on the beauty of the Lord and seeking him in his temple. (Psalm 27:4)

Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:2)

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. (2 Cor. 3:18)

What we focus on comes to control our thoughts, our actions, and indeed, our very lives. Whatever we focus upon actually wires our neurons. —Kare Anderson

*Intense, prolonged, or repeated mental activity—especially if it is conscious—will leave an enduring imprint in neural structure, like a surging current reshaping a riverbed. In the saying in neuroscience: **Neurons that fire together, wire together.** Mental states become neural traits. Day after day, your mind is building your brain.*

—Dr. Rick Hanson

These words are the heart of the Pauline gospel. —Robert Falconer

In the Bible, remembering...is not the retention or recollection of a mental image, but a focusing upon the object of memory that results in action. —Nahum Sarna

The tense of the Greek does not imply one definite act in time, but a continued state which lasts forever. Paul is not so much saying to Timothy: "Remember the actual resurrection of Jesus"; but rather: "Remember your risen and ever-present Lord." —William Barclay

WHO IS JESUS CHRIST?

- He is perfect _____.
- He is prophesied _____.
- He is resurrected _____.
- He is sovereign _____.

HOW DO WE STAY FOCUSED ON HIM?

- _____ Him.
- _____ Him.
- _____ Him.

WHY DO WE STAY FOCUSED ON HIM?

*This is a faithful saying:
For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him.
If we endure, we shall also reign with Him.
If we deny Him, He also will deny us.
If we are faithless, He remains faithful;
He cannot deny Himself. (2:11-13)*

- With Him is eternal _____.
- With Him is eternal _____.
- Without Him is eternal _____.
- With Him is eternal _____.

He became what we are that He might make us what He is.

—Athanasius (298-373)

The fact that the infinite, omnipotent, eternal Son of God could become man and join Himself to a human nature forever, so that infinite God became one person with finite man, will remain for eternity the most profound miracle and the most profound mystery in all the universe. —Wayne Grudem

“My gospel” is not one invented by Paul but the one entrusted to him.

—Gordon D. Fee

Faith is the gaze of a soul upon a saving God.

—A. W. Tozer

The five **trustworthy statements** in the Pastoral Epistles: 1 Tim. 1:15, 3:1, 4:9; Titus 3:8; 2 Tim. 2:10.

When did we die with Him? When He died over 1900 years ago. When we come to Christ and receive Him as our Savior, His death becomes our death. We are identified with Him and are raised with Him in newness of life. —J. Vernon McGee

Deny. Grk, *arneomai*, “to say no.”

This speaks of a final, permanent denial, such as that of an apostate, not the temporary failure of a true believer like Peter. Those who so deny Christ give evidence that they never truly belonged to Him (1 Jn. 2:19) and face the fearful reality of one day being denied by Him. —John MacArthur, Jr.

This is a wonderful affirmation of assurance. Although we are called to endure and be faithful, salvation does not rest ultimately on our faithfulness, but upon that of Christ. —Reformation Study Bible