



## THEME

Freed from ordinary things so we can chase what matters most

## ANCHORED TO TRUTH

2 Timothy 2:1-7, Matthew 6:31-34, John 10:7-11, James 5:12, James 3:1-12, Matthew 12:33-37, Colossians 3:1-11, Romans 2:1-2, Matthew 5:5:27-30, Hebrews 12:1-2

## CONVERSATION

1. What's more frustrating > playing a competitive game with a teammate who's not trying or playing against someone who cheats?
2. Check out 2 Timothy 2:1-7 {BACKGROUND: Scholars believe this letter was written by Paul from the infamous Mamertine Prison in Rome in 64 AD. This prison was the worst place you could be sentenced short of death. It was literally a hole in the ground that prisoners were lowered into - a dungeon. It was described by a contemporary historian as: "neglect, darkness, and stench, it is an altogether terrifying sight."}

Timothy, my dear son, be strong through the grace that God gives you in Christ Jesus. 2 You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.

3 Endure suffering along with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 4 Soldiers don't get tied up in the affairs of civilian life, for then they cannot please the officer who enlisted them. 5 And athletes cannot win the prize unless they follow the rules. 6 And hardworking farmers should be the first to enjoy the fruit of their labor. 7 Think about what I am saying. The Lord will help you understand all these things.

3. Paul finishes by saying, "think about what I'm saying" > like, take a second to look deeper into my metaphors. What do you think he wants us to understand from his soldier, athlete, farmer metaphor about how we should serve Jesus?
  - a. In regards to the Soldier?
  - b. In regards to the Athlete?
  - c. In regards to the Farmer?
4. What are some common civilian affairs people in your demographic find difficult to 'untangle' themselves from?
  - a. Why are those particular things such a powerful draw?
5. Look at verse 2 again > this is the reason Paul goes into the soldier-athlete-farmer metaphor. How does the metaphor apply to his encouragement here?
  - a. If a bunch of us spent less time tangled up in the meaningless stuff > and were dialed in about sharing truth with others > how would that affect our campus?
  - b. What's a good term for: teaching truth to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others?

## RESPOND

- Identify the civilian affairs you most often find yourself tangled up in.
  - Is there anything you can do practically that would help you spend less time in these?
  - Pick one that you'd like to start getting untangled from this week.

- How can we help each other with this?
- We know God's not just trying to get us *to stop* doing something > but to free us up *to do* something > what do you think he'd like you to give more of yourself to?
  - Is there someone you could share that with so they can encourage you?

**Spend some time praying with each other**