

## TRANSITION AT GRACE CHAPEL What Should Grace Chapel Expect of a Preacher?

**THEME:** Our transition event has been an exciting time of analysis, insight, and looking to a bright future. God has blessed the launch of Kurt's ministry, and Paul is eager to assume his duties as our new Senior Minister. This week's Bible Study will focus on two texts that outline the responsibilities of those who preach the Word of God. Our study will prepare us to appreciate and support the work that lies ahead with our new preacher and lead minister.

### ICE BREAKER

- Have you learned to pronounce *Huyghebaert* yet? Don't worry about it! He answers to Paul. But . . .
- Do you know the name of Paul's wife? How many children they have? The names of their two sons? The gender of their soon-to-be-born baby?
- Are you praying for the Huyghebaerts on a regular basis?

### THINK

- What are some of the cultural expectations of preachers in 2015?
- Are some of these modern expectations unreasonable? Distractions from the biblical assignments-expectations of a preacher?
- What are the *three* primary expectations you have of a preacher?
- How can you encourage and help a preacher to meet those expectations?

### EXAMINE

Read [1 Timothy 4:1-16](#) as background to the following questions:

- This text begins (vs. 1-5) with Paul's commentary on the "cultural context" Timothy was beginning to see unfold. If you were to give commentary on the world of 2015, what would you name as key challenges to preachers?
- What is Paul's point about "physical training" (i.e., discipline) at v.8? What spiritual disciplines do you think are especially important for ministers?
- The crux of this text is found at vs.11-14. Explore these verses under the headings provided at v.16 – "you will save both (a) *yourself* and (b) *your hearers*."
- What is the "laying on of hands" mentioned at v.14? What is the equivalent of that action in our context at Grace Chapel?
- Explain the significance of v.15.

Read [2 Timothy 3:10 – 4:5](#) as background for discussing the following questions:

- Second Timothy appears to be the final epistle Paul ever wrote, as he awaited martyrdom at Rome under Nero (cf. 4:6ff). Why did he begin this charge to Timothy with a review of his own life and work?
- How have we come to understand the role of a *mentor* in helping others succeed in their work?
- What do you know of the relationship between Paul and Timothy that created such a strong mentoring relationship between the two men? See Acts 16:1; Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 1:2; 2 Tim. 1:2,6.
- Why is grounding in and constant study of Scripture (3:14-17) so important in the life of a minister of the gospel?
- Examine the elements of Paul's solemn charge at 4:1-5.

**THIS WEEK:** This week's study has focused on the character, lifestyle, and duties of a preacher. These are things Grace Chapel has a right to expect of anyone who is charged by our shepherds with leading the congregation as its most visible and frequent teacher of the Word of God. Next week, we will explore the expectations a preacher reasonably holds of the church he serves.