

## 7. Lessons from Timothy: the Glory of God

*To Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen. 2 Timothy 4.18*

*God, I thank You that I am not like other people.... Luke 18.11*

An important part of our fellowship with Christ is the spiritual discipline of self-reflection. Christian or not, we don't learn from experience, we learn from \_\_\_\_\_ on experience! That usually only happens when we hit a rough patch in life.

*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.* In the face of death, Paul was \_\_\_\_\_ in his own faithfulness which, in our culture, may come across to us as boasting. His confident self-assessment, however, was common in Roman and Jewish culture at the time. It wasn't pride....

Paul wanted Timothy to know that his death would be "a pleasing \_\_\_\_\_" to God. This makes one thing very clear: no earthly authority, no government, no empire, no worldly power could take Paul's life.

In court, facing certain death, the Apostle, strengthened by Christ's \_\_\_\_\_, continued to preach the Gospel, in this instance, to the very judges who were hearing his case in the courtroom.

*...the lion's mouth is a metaphor remembering Daniel in the lion's den.* Paul was on his way to certain death while at the same \_\_\_\_\_ claiming he was rescued from the lion's mouth?

God had delivered him from the lion's mouth and now he was able to preach the Gospel even to the judges who were hearing his case. Paul is in \_\_\_\_\_ of the God Who had delivered him long enough for him to tell the story of Jesus one more time.

What a story! Paul's story is my story, your story! His life is the life we are called to live, a life lived to the glory of God. What does it \_\_\_\_\_ to live to the glory of God?

Biblically speaking, the glory of God is God's invisible character \_\_\_\_\_ visible in the world. So, for me to live to the glory of God is simply to live so that God's invisible character is made visible in the world in and through me!

Let the invisible character of God be revealed in the visible world in and through \_\_\_\_\_. To Him be the glory forever and ever in our every thought, every feeling, every word and every action! Amen!