

D E T E R M I N E D  
F A I T H  
S E S S I O N F O U R

## ENDURE AND OVERCOME

Our world defines success differently than the Lord does. The Apostle Paul walked away from the “safety” and “security” of his former way of life to courageously align himself with Jesus and follow God’s plans. There is much we can learn from his example.

### Scripture

2 Timothy 4:3–18 (NIV®)

<sup>3</sup> For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. <sup>4</sup> They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. <sup>5</sup> **But you**, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

<sup>6</sup> For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. <sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup> **Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and **not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing**.

<sup>9</sup> **Do your best to come to me quickly**, <sup>10</sup> for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. <sup>11</sup> Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry. <sup>12</sup> I sent Tychicus to Ephesus. <sup>13</sup> When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments. <sup>14</sup> Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done. <sup>15</sup> You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message. <sup>16</sup> At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. <sup>17</sup> But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion’s mouth. <sup>18</sup> The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

## **Discussion Questions**

1. Share a challenge you faced in your life. How did it encourage you to grow in your faith?
2. Pastor Allen talks about choosing—every day—to live a more radical life of faith. What does that mean to you personally?
3. We all have times when we feel abandoned or lonely. How has seeking the Lord through praise and prayer help change your perspective?
4. Even though Paul ruthlessly persecuted Christians, God changed his heart to become one of the most influential people in the Christian church. Describe someone you know who has been transformed by God's power.
5. What “take away” have you gained through this four-week study?

## **Let's Pray**

Almighty God, You made the earth and everything it. You change the times and seasons; You set up leaders and You depose them. You give wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. We choose to submit to You, to follow in obedience with the strength You have provided. Now may the eyes of our hearts be enlightened to know the hope to which You have called us, the riches of our glorious inheritance in the saints and Your incomparable power at work on our behalf. In Jesus' name, amen.

This study is from “Determined Faith — Live a Radical Life,” a sermon Pastor Allen Jackson delivered on February 19, 2023.



**WORLD OUTREACH CHURCH**