

PERSONAL NOTE

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I would like to share with you what the Lord has been depositing in my heart for the past weeks. Writing this week's parson, though scheduled, began with the intention to take an early morning bike ride. But the Lord had other plans—He led me instead to my devo place to seek Him so early today. In the process, the Lord deposited in my mind and heart how to go about this week's parson among many others I sought His wisdom for. While there is a space limitation, rest assured, the Lord speaks and all we need to do is to listen, to listen intently that He may deposit in our hearts His wonderful truths that is in His Word.

Remind. Reading through the letters of Paul to his son in the faith, Timothy showed me the patience and persistence of a discipler and mentor. Remind. Remind. Paul reminded Timothy to remember the teachings he had taught him in the faith. He reminded Timothy to put into action what his mother and grandmother had taught him in the past and to live it out.

The Word is God's faithful reminder to me to know Him more so I could consistently obey Him and give glory to Him. This, too, is what I need to do to those whom God has brought to my life. To remind people. To lovingly remind them of God's goodness, God's greatness and God's teachings. My prayer is that those whom God

has brought to me—would fan into flame the gift of God which is in you (2 Timothy 1:6a).

Endure. Paul suffered for the Lord. He also endured until the end. Thus, he said in 2 Timothy 2:10, *'Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.'* The apostle reminds Timothy that the challenges he faces as a young pastor is part and parcel of God's work—that it comes with the calling that he chose to obey. As a disciple who is trying to disciple others, it is part of the calling the Lord has tasked me to do. So, when the challenges of today entails sometimes being hurt, ignored and not seen, I need to endure. But what is so amazing when I bring to the Lord my concerns, I just hear His soft voice and gentle reminder *'just love them!'*

Praise God that in the challenges of our days, He gives the grace to endure our little sufferings (my sufferings are nothing compared to the Lord's) and He just tells us to love and give grace instead! (P.S. reading scripture—I was reminded that persistence and endurance in our faith has a great reward).

Godliness. The Lord requires clean vessels for His use (2 Timothy 2:21) - this was His reminder to Timothy that he had

been set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house - ready for every good work. This, too, is the Lord's reminder to me - that all aspects of my life be submitted holy to Him so that I can be of use for His work.

I thank the Lord, that He is the one who has set me apart through His perfect and sufficient work on the cross (Heb 10:10). Jesus' one time sacrifice reminds me everyday of His everlasting love, grace and awesome power for me to live a holy life every day, even in the midst of challenges.

I pray that I would always yield to the conviction of the Holy Spirit. Make me a vessel of honorable use, dear God.

Worthy! Jesus is worthy of all my praises and prayers. He is God. He is the image of the Father. He is the Fulness of the Godhead. He is my Redeemer and He made me His friend by His grace and mercy alone.

My desire and prayer is to be proven faithful to Him and to the work He has given me the privilege to partake of. As you read, I pray that the Lord would remind you to pray for me, for all our pastors and leaders the Lord has allowed you to encounter in this blessed journey of faith.

The Lord bless you and keep you faithful! ✱