**2 Timothy 3:14-17 — How Do I Stand Strong For Jesus?**

April 25, 2021

1. Strong Christians avoid deception by learning from the lives of great Christians that lived before them.

2 Timothy 3:10-13

1. Strong Christians avoid deception by having deep-rooted biblical convictions.

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.   
2 Timothy 3:14–15 (ESV)

Learned — What you were discipled in, what you were taught

Firmly Believed — The convictions that you hold as true even if you can not always clearly articulate why they are true.

Knowing from whom you learned it — The character of our life helps others trust the truth we teach about Jesus.

From childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings — Timothy developed his convictions about Jesus not just from Paul’s teaching and character but also from his mother and grandmother’s teaching and character.

I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. 2 Timothy 1:5 (ESV)

How did Jewish parents teach their children the Word of God?

1. They taught their children as they went about daily life.

And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. Deuteronomy 6:6–7 (ESV)

1. They taught their children by having them memorize Scripture.

I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. Psalm 119:11 (ESV)

1. They taught their children by catechism.

Check Amazon for The New City Catechism for Kids

1. Strong Christians avoid deception by holding to the Word of God.

…and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 2 Timothy 3:15 (ESV)

The Old Testament can make us wise for salvation.

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:12 (ESV)

1. All Scripture is inspired by God.

All Scripture is breathed out by God… 2 Timothy 3:16 (ESV)

All — Not parts of the Bible, but ALL of the Bible.

If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken— John 10:35 (ESV)

Scripture — Means writings. It refers to the words of God in the Bible. It refers to the Old Testament and the New Testament.

For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain,” and, “The laborer deserves his wages.” 1 Timothy 5:18 (ESV)

* You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain comes from Deuteronomy 25:4.
* The laborer deserves his wages comes from Luke 10:7.
* Both Old and New Testament were considered sacred Scripture!

And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures.   
2 Peter 3:15–16 (ESV)

* Peter considered Paul’s letters to be Scripture.
* Paul considered Luke’s letters to be Scripture.

I put you under oath before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers. 1 Thessalonians 5:27 (ESV)

And when this letter has been read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you also read the letter from Laodicea. Colossians 4:16 (ESV)

* Paul insisted that his letters be read to, exchanged with, and obeyed by other churches.

If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord.   
1 Corinthians 14:37 (ESV)

And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.   
1 Corinthians 2:13 (ESV)

* Paul was adamant he was speaking God’s words, not his own.

Breathed Out — This doesn’t mean God breathed into the biblical authors allowing them to write their words. It means God spoke through the biblical authors speaking His own words.

For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.   
2 Peter 1:21 (ESV)

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hebrews 4:12 (ESV)

1. All Scripture is profitable.

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,…   
2 Timothy 3:16 (ESV)

The Bible is profitable for teaching us the right way to think.

* Teaching
* Reproof

The Bible is profitable for teaching us the right way to live.

* Correction
* Training in Righteousness

1. The Bible equips us with everything we need for every good work.

…that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:17 (ESV)

Life Group Questions

1. Review your sermon notes and the above outline. What stood out in this message? What did you learn that you didn’t know?
2. Timothy owed much to his Christian mother and grandmother. Do you think Christian parents and grandparents today are placing sufficient emphasis on instructing their children in the Bible from an early age? What hinders them? How can some of those obstacles be overcome?
3. Why is the training of a mother so important for a child? (See Proverbs 31:10-31; Titus 2:1-6; Proverbs 22:6)
4. What is the difference between human inspiration and the divine inspiration of the Bible?
5. How does a commitment to regular prayerful study of the Bible change the way a person thinks about life and the way a person acts in life? How does the Bible change our view of the unborn, the aged, the terminally ill, marriage, family, work, and the way we use our time?