

## Sermon Title: 3 Marks of a Faithful Life

Series: Fan the Flame

### Group Life Discussion Guide

#### Welcome & Getting to Know One Another

**Ice Breaker Question:** If you could be any animal for a week, which animal would you be and why? Let's share our choices and the quirky reasons behind them. This fun question will not only help us learn names but also give us a glimpse into each other's personalities and sense of humor.

#### Centering

**Quiet Moment:** Let's take a quiet moment to center our souls on God's presence. I invite [member's name] to read the following Scripture aloud slowly, 3 times, allowing space for silent reflection after each reading. Feel free to close your eyes, take a deep breath, and prayerfully listen, letting the words speak to you.

##### 2 Timothy 4:18

"The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory forever and ever. Amen."

#### Exploring

**Introduction to the Series:** For those new or who missed previous sessions, we're concluding our series "Fan the Flame" with a focus on 2 Timothy, examining the Apostle Paul's final words as he awaited execution. His reflections give us profound insights into living a faithful life, emphasizing companionship, facing rejection, and embodying confidence in Christ.

**Scripture Recap:** Let's have [participant's name] read aloud 2 Timothy 4:9-22 as a refresher of Paul's poignant words to Timothy and to us.

#### Discussion Questions

1. **Companionship:** Paul's mention of companions like Luke and Mark highlights the importance of relationships in our faith journey. Reflect on your own life - how has companionship played a role in your faith? How can we foster deeper connections within our community?
2. **Facing Rejection:** Paul's experience with rejection, such as from Demas or Alexander, teaches us that rejection can be a marker of faithfulness rather than failure. Share a time when you faced rejection and how it impacted your faith. How can we reframe our understanding of rejection in light of Paul's perspective?
3. **Confidence in Christ:** Paul's unwavering confidence in the face of death is striking. Discuss what it means to have confidence in Christ. What steps can we take to deepen our trust and assurance in God's promises?

4. **Encountering Jesus:** Paul's confidence was rooted in his encounters with Jesus. Share how you've encountered Jesus in your own life. How do these experiences shape our faith and confidence?
5. **The Kingdom of God:** Paul witnessed the Kingdom of God through signs and wonders. Reflect on moments where you've seen God's kingdom break through in your life or in the lives of others.
6. **Presence of the Holy Spirit:** The peace of God comes through the Holy Spirit's presence. Discuss ways we can be more open to the Holy Spirit in our daily lives.

## Ending

**Prayer in Small Groups:** Let's break into smaller groups to pray for one another, focusing on the discussions we've had today. Share one area where you seek to live out the teachings from today's discussion more faithfully. Pray for each other, asking God to strengthen our companionship, help us face rejection with grace, and bolster our confidence in His promises.

**Closing:** May our discussions today inspire us to live lives marked by faithfulness, reflecting the profound lessons Paul has shared with us. Let's carry these insights into our week, encouraging and supporting one another in our journey of faith.