2 Timothy 4v6-8 – Proclaiming the message through people

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1. What is striking or surprising to you about the way Paul finishes his letter?

2. Paul spends much of his time in these final verses talking about specific people. What does this teach us about his outlook and priorities in ministry?

- Team game! Different personalities and gifts represented - blessing to him personally, and the ministry
- We know some of the back story of Mark - Acts 15:36-40 - he's restored! Second chances, grace
- Real warmth and love for his coworkers - quick to honour them

2a. How can we value and invest in Gospel partnerships, as Paul has? What practical steps can we take? What might be the fruit of investment?

3. What has happened in Demas' heart and life (4:9–10)? How is he a contrast to Paul (4:8; note that the term translated 'longed for' in the niv is literally 'loved' in the original)?

3a. How is he a warning to us?

4. What is striking about Paul's request in verse 13? What does this teach us about his priorities?

- He's cold… But mainly, he wants to study the scriptures and keep writing - even at the end of his life in prison

6. Ultimately, what are the concerns and longings of Paul's heart (4:17–18)?

- Finish the task of fully proclaiming the gospel
- He's ultimate concern is God's glory

6a. How do we see his trust in the sovereignty of God as he considers the pain of opposition and the uncertainty of his own future?

- He doesn't despair - even though feels the pain of isolation and desertion - he trusts God will do what he promised, and that he's working out his purposes

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As you look back through 2 Timothy - what's encouraged you? Challenged you? Inspired you? Pray through those things