



**Sermon Based Small Group
Leader Discussion Guide**

Sermon Title: "Finding an Adventure with Jesus"

**Sermon by Fred Oaks
Week of October 24, 2010**

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Session Objectives	<p>By the end of the session, group members should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify at least two people that have had a meaningful impact on your spiritual life. • Name two positive results that flow from accepting God's will for your life.
Personal Connection (Leader)	<p>How does my story connect to the reading?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During your life time think of at least two people that have God used to preserve you/ move you to your current level of spiritual growth? • What characteristics about these people do you admire the most?
Icebreaker	<p>When you were a child, how did you answer this question: 'When I grow up, I want to be _____'? How does your life now compare to how you imagined it would be as a child?</p>

<p>Big Idea</p>	<p>God desires all people to live on purpose for him. Christians often find that God uses more mature believers to speak his purpose into their lives.</p>
<p>Sermon Text</p>	<p><i>2 Timothy 4:1-7</i></p> <p><i>1In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: 2Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. 3For 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. 4They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. 5But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry. 6For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. 7I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.</i></p>
<p>Digging Deeper</p>	<p>Learning more about the lesson</p> <p>Perhaps some of you have watched The Amazing Race series on CBS. In this series, 10-12 couples are selected to participate and the ultimate prize is one-million dollars. Traveling around the world by plane, car, train, walking, running, etc., these contestants are required to participate in various stunts and life situations that are quite challenging for the faint at heart. At various stages of the competition, the last couple to arrive at a certain destination, somewhere in the world, is eliminated. Thus the races continues until all but one couple is eliminated at which time they arrive at their final designated destination and receive the prize—one million dollars.</p> <p>Like the ten contestants competing for the prize, did you know that you and I are invited “Find An Adventure with Jesus.” It too is an Amazing Race. It is a race in which the stakes are high and the prize to be won is astonishing. This race is described by the Apostle Paul in the text that we will study this week. In the amazing race, described by the Apostle Paul, unlike the few participants who participate in CBS's Amazing Race, in this race all are welcome to accept the</p>

charge.

1. Have you ever been given a “charge” by a mentor or someone you greatly admired? How did it make you feel?

***Leader: How did this “charge” differ from mere advise? What made it more memorable and significant?**

2. What specific instructions or guidance did Paul give to Timothy, 2 Timothy 4:1, 5?

***Leader: Why was it especially important to Paul to communicate these instructions to Timothy? What did he foresee as the risk of not communicating these instructions to Timothy?**

3. Why was Paul so intent on motivating Timothy to make sure he lived with purpose. See 2 Timothy 4:6,7?

4. Read 2 Timothy 4:6-8. What personal challenges are you facing that are hindering you from “finishing the race?”

***Leader: May be appropriate to pause and pray depending on issues that are shared.**

5. If you were to live life like it was a sprint and not a marathon, how would it impact the daily decisions you make? How would it impact the things that you do?

6. What counsel would you share with someone who is facing the end of their life?

Digging Deeper

Learning more about the lesson

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