Lownes Free Church Sunday Morning – March 31, 2019

**Nurturing God’s Family**

**Planting, Establishing, and Leading Local Churches**

Practical Principles from The Pastoral Letters

**“Equipping the Called”**

**2 Timothy 1:1-18**

**Job Opening: Local Missionary**

Responsibilities: Must be willing to serve local community and surrounding areas, some travel required. Applicant must be willing to arrange travel details and cover most expenses. Must be willing to associate with known Jewish prisoner and evangelist. Must be willing to experience intense persecution at the hand of enemies. Must be willing to associate and share Christ with the unclean Gentiles who may or may not like you. Imminent death may be required. Support from local churches may be available Compensation cannot be guaranteed. Benefits include eternal security, the promise of the Holy Spirit, and the joy of leading and encouraging the church.

**What are Paul’s key points?** Timothy, you will sustain the church as you…

• Carry on a legacy of godly discipleship. vv. 1-6

• Embody courage to embrace suffering. vv. 7-8

• Remember salvation is by grace alone vv. 9-10

• Have confidence in the promises of God. vv. 11-12

• Teach sound doctrine to others. vs. 13

• Depend on the power of the Holy Spirit. vs. 14

• Find faithful companions, don’t do it alone. vv. 15-18

***What is the Big Idea?***

*A church is established as its leaders model and teach believers to persevere in the faith*

*by courageously embracing suffering.*

***How do we apply these principles?***

**• *Me? A Role Model?*** *Paul urged Timothy to be a good role model. Who are some of your role models/mentors and why did you look up to them? What are some ways that you can be a better role model today?*

• ***Run* from *suffering or run* to *suffering?*** *Suffering is uncomfortable and you probably try to avoid it. However, being a Christian is an invitation to suffer for the gospel. What should you remember as you persevere through suffering? What is the fruit of suffering?*

• ***Who’s your companion?*** *Companionship is not just for church leaders, even though they are to model it. How*

*can church leaders demonstrate the importance of relationships in the body of Christ? How have people encouraged and refreshed you? What is the danger of*

*not having a companion?*

*“God does not call the qualified,*

*He qualifies the called.”*