

# **Endurance**

2 Timothy 2:8-13

*Endurance depends on focus.*

1. Remember Jesus (v8)
2. Remember the elect (v9-10)
3. Remember this saying (v11-13)

## **FOR FURTHER THOUGHT**

1. What has been one of the hardest things you've had to endure? Have you had to endure anything for the sake of the gospel? How does our culture teach us to fill in the blank: "I endure everything for the sake of \_\_\_\_\_"? How would you fill in the blank?
2. Read 2 Timothy 2:8-13. Why does Paul speak of Jesus' being risen before he speaks of Jesus' ancestry? (Look at 2:16-18.) What do the elect have to do with our enduring? How does the theme of endurance tie in with the "trustworthy saying" of v11-13?
3. How does God's sovereignty relate to our mission of reaching people for Christ? See Romans 10:14-17. Can you think of other passages that speak to this issue?
4. What's the difference between apostasy and faltering? How does Jesus deal with each? When you sin (and we all do), do you find it hard to approach God? How does the fact that "we have an advocate with the Father" (1 John 2:1) make a difference in those times?
5. Are there any hymns or songs that convey these truths (like the hymn Paul quoted in v11-13), that you can bring to mind when your endurance is flagging? (E.g., last verse of "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" or Rich Mullins' "If I Stand")
6. Does the example of our brothers and sisters around the world who are suffering for Christ encourage you to remain strong and endure? Check out Voice of the Martyrs ([www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com)) and its app (VOM Pray Today).