### Hardship Faith

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"Loneliness"

<sup>9</sup> Do your best to come to me quickly, <sup>10</sup> for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. 11 Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry.

<sup>12</sup> I sent Tychicus to Ephesus. <sup>13</sup> When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments.

<sup>14</sup> Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done. <sup>15</sup> You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message.

<sup>16</sup> At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them.



### REJECTION:

<sup>9</sup> Do your best to come to me quickly, <sup>10</sup> for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me...

2 Timothy 4:9,10a



### ISOLATION:

<sup>13</sup> When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments.

2 Timothy 4:13



#### BETRAYAL

Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done.
 You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message.

2 Timothy 4:14-15



### ABANDONMENT:

<sup>16</sup> At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me.

2 Timothy 4:16a

### How did Paul cope with such loneliness?

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## He valued the trusted friends that he still had.



### 2 Timothy 4:9,10b,12

- <sup>9</sup> Do your best to come to me quickly...
- <sup>10</sup> Crescent has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia...
- <sup>12</sup> I sent Tychicus to Ephesus.

### How did Paul cope with such loneliness?

He was willing to give those who let him down a second chance.



<sup>11</sup> Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry.

<sup>16</sup> At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them.

### How did Paul cope with such loneliness?

# He ultimately trusted God's friendship over human loyalty.



<sup>17</sup> But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it.

### The Lord "stood at my side"

The Lord "stood at my side"

The Lord "gave me strength"

"It is in times of deepest loneliness, when there is no one there but God, that we learn to know Him most fully... In periods of loneliness, the Master draws us into His presence so that later, when we speak to others, they sense we are speaking to them from holy ground."

Selwyn Hughes

<sup>18</sup> The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

2 Timothy 4:18

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