Commissioning

A reflection on 2 Timothy 2:2-7, 15 and Acts 20:17-38

"Guard yourselves and God's people," he said. "Feed and shepherd God's flock—his church, purchased with his own blood—over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as leaders." Acts 20:28

William Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army, once observed:

"The tendency of fire is to go out; watch the fire on the altar of your heart."

The Word: Your Compass in a Disoriented World

"Present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth."

2 Timothy 2:15

"The gospel is both more offensive and more hopeful than we imagine.

More offensive because it confronts our selfrighteousness and autonomy. More hopeful because it offers grace that's deeper than our deepest failure." - Tim Keller

The Vision: From Addition to Multiplication

"The things you have heard from me, entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others." 2 Timothy 2:2

The Process: Endurance: Soldier, Athlete, Farmer

"Share in suffering as a good soldier," he tells Timothy.
"Compete like an athlete according to the rules...
work hard like a farmer."
2 Timothy 2:3-7

"Now I entrust you to God and the message of his grace... which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance."

Acts 20:32

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

Ephesians 3:20-21