

## We are God's Tools Series – Part 1

### “Usable Tool in God's Hand”

II Timothy 2:1–13 (CSB)

**INTRODUCTION:** At home I have a toolbox full of tools. I imagine you have a toolbox at your house, don't you? Why do we need so many tools? It is because each tool has a different purpose. There is no one tool that can do everything. If I needed to drive a nail into a board, what tool do you think I would need? Right! I would need a hammer. If I were putting together a bookshelf and needed to put in a screw to hold it together, I would need a screwdriver. If I needed to measure something I would need a tape measure. It is important to have the right tool for the job.

The Church is like God's toolbox. God has a lot of jobs to do, and he has given the people in His Church different gifts and talents to help Him to do those jobs. We are His tools! To some he has given musical talent to help lead others in worship. To some He has given the talent of teaching so that they can help others to learn more about Him. There is no one person in the church that can do everything, is there? Listen to what **I Corinthians 12:4-11 (NLT)** say, “**There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. 5 There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. 6 God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.**”

How is it if we are a tool in God's hand? We want to be a usable tool in God's hand, because it makes a big difference. In our lesson text II Timothy 2 Paul is going to be telling Timothy how to be a usable tool in God's hand. I want you to know that God can use you, and I am going to give you some things to be a usable tool in God's hand. If you are like me and you want God to use you, and make a difference in the life of others and your community let's look at few things that can help you/

1. Be Strong in your Walk with Jesus (V.1-2)

*“You, therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”*

Joshua 1:6–9 (CSB) Four times in Joshua He says be “**Be Strong**”

V.6 – Be Strong and Courageous

V.7 – Be Strong and very Courageous

V.9 – Be Strong and Courageous

V.18 – Be Strong and Courageous

Haggai 2:4 (CSB) Three times He said, **Be Strong**

I Corinthians 16:13 (CSB) “*Be alert, stand firm in the faith, be courageous, be strong.*”

2. Be a Disciple who makes Disciples (V.1-2)

*“You, therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”*

In our walk with God, it should be our goal to pour our life into someone else, to Make Disciples.

Matthew 28:18–20 (CSB) “*Jesus came near and said to them, “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*”

Ephesians 4:11–16 “*And he himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,<sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of*

ministry, to build up the body of Christ,<sup>13</sup> until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God's Son, growing into maturity with a stature measured by Christ's fullness.<sup>14</sup> Then we will no longer be little children, tossed by the waves and blown around by every wind of teaching, by human cunning with cleverness in the techniques of deceit.<sup>15</sup> But speaking the truth in love, let us grow in every way into him who is the head—Christ.<sup>16</sup> From him the whole body, fitted and knit together by every supporting ligament, promotes the growth of the body for building itself up in love by the proper working of each individual part.”

3. Three Characteristic if God is going to Use us (V.3-7)

a. The Soldier: Focus (V.3-4)

“Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 4 No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in the concerns of civilian life; he seeks to please the commanding officer.”

Ephesians 6:10–18

Philippians 2:25

b. The Athlete: Obedient (V.5)

5 “Also, if anyone competes as an athlete, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.”

I Corinthians 9:24–27 (CSB) “Don't you know that the runners in a stadium all race, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way to win the prize. 25 Now everyone who competes exercises self-control in everything. They do it to receive a perishable crown, but we an imperishable crown. 26 So I do not run like one who runs aimlessly or box like one beating the air. 27 Instead, I discipline my body and bring it under strict control, so that after preaching to others, I myself will not be disqualified.”

Hebrews 12:1–2 (CSB) “Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every hindrance and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us,<sup>2</sup> keeping our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy that lay before him,<sup>[c]</sup> he endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

c. The Farmer: Hardworking (V.6-7)

6 “The hardworking farmer ought to be the first to get a share of the crops. 7 Consider what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.”

Galatians 6:9 (CSB) “Let us not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don’t give up.”

James 5:7 (CSB) “Therefore, brothers and sisters, be patient until the Lord’s coming. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth and is patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains.”

4. Be Rooted in the unwavering Promises of God (V.8-13)

Isaiah 55:11 (CSB) “so my word that comes from my mouth will not return to me empty, but it will accomplish what I please and will prosper in what I send it to do.”

Acts 12:24 (CSB) “But the word of God spread and multiplied.”

Mark 13:31 (CSB)

I Thessalonians 5:24 (CSB)

Matthew 10:32–33 (CSB)