**Reading 1**[**2 TM 2:8-15**](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2timothy/2:8)

Beloved:  
Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David:  
such is my Gospel, for which I am suffering,  
even to the point of chains, like a criminal.  
But the word of God is not chained.  
Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen,  
so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus,  
together with eternal glory.  
This saying is trustworthy:

If we have died with him  
we shall also live with him;  
if we persevere  
we shall also reign with him.  
But if we deny him  
he will deny us.  
If we are unfaithful  
he remains faithful,  
for he cannot deny himself.

Remind people of these things  
and charge them before God to stop disputing about words.  
This serves no useful purpose since it harms those who listen.  
Be eager to present yourself as acceptable to God,  
a workman who causes no disgrace,  
imparting the word of truth without deviation.