

Date: 11 July 2021

Speaker: Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew

Topic: A Study of 2 Timothy 4 - How is Your Brotherly Love?

Text: 2 Timothy 4:9-11

1. Our earthly family is not eternal, but our spiritual family is. We have the biggest spiritual family waiting for us in Heaven one day. But the kind of brotherly love that God wants us to show is right now on Earth.
2. Brotherly love is measured by brotherly fellowship. At the very end of Apostle Paul's ministry, he was suffering alone with Luke. So he asked Timothy to quickly come to see him. Paul and Timothy shared a special relationship as spiritual father and son. They had close intimate fellowship as they served the Lord together in spreading the Gospel.

Christian fellowship is key in a believer's life.

3. Brotherly love will lead to brotherly warning. One of Paul's past co-worker was Demas. He was with Paul when Paul served, when Paul went to prison and when Paul was under house arrest. But now he has changed. Out of fear and love for the world, Demas no longer wants to be associated with Paul. Thus, Paul had to warn others about Demas' sin so that they do not have any close partnership with him.

Speaking up to warn others is a believer's duty.

4. Brotherly love also includes brotherly encouragement. Previously, Paul insisted that John Mark should not be brought along in the missionary journey. This led to a sharp dissension between Paul and Barnabas, to the point that they separated ways. But many years later, Paul now affirms John Mark as someone profitable for the ministry.

Opening our mouth with words of encouragement rather than words of criticism.