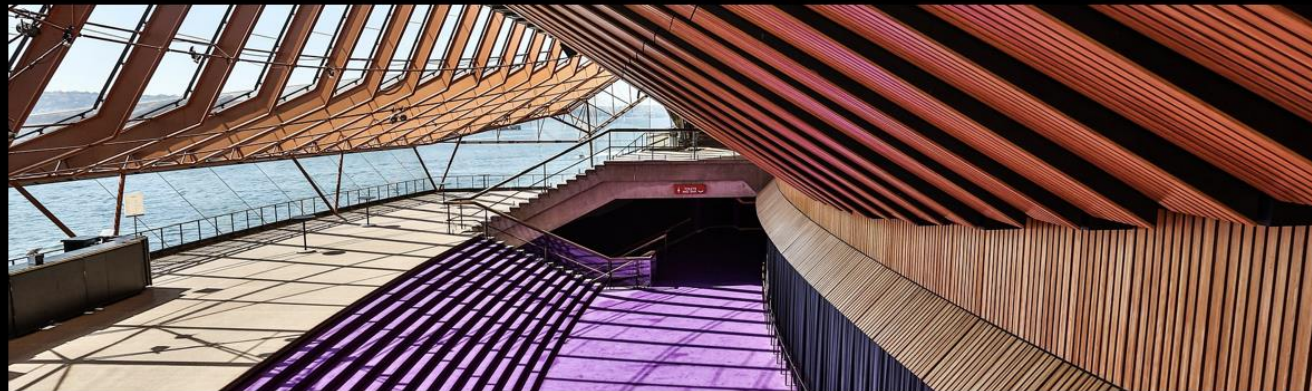


Il Timothy 4

...and don't forget to guess at
which international city is featured on today's slides



Where I'm coming from



Before we get into it, a challenge...

Let's shut out all outside distractions



Context

- Why II Timothy was written
- Church planters
- Mentorship
- Paul's situation
- Nearing the end



Let's look at the passage

We'll have three take-aways:

- Entrusted task
- People
- Trials



II Timothy 4:1-4



¹ I solemnly urge you in the presence of God and Christ Jesus, who will someday judge the living and the dead when he comes to set up his Kingdom: ² Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching.

³ For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear.

⁴ They will reject the truth and chase after myths.

II Timothy 4:5



⁵ But you should keep a clear mind in every situation. Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you.

The entrusted task

- The Word of God and good teaching versus all kinds of unwholesome stuff:
 - Cults
 - Heresy (e.g., prosperity gospel)
 - Wrong identity



The entrusted task

- How to guard against unwholesome teaching:
 - Fill your mind with good teaching
 - Regular Bible reading and devotions
 - Church gatherings



II Timothy 4:6-8



⁶ As for me, my life has already been poured out as an offering to God. The time of my death is near. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. ⁸ And now the prize awaits me—the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing.

Nearing the end of the race

- Fought the good fight
- Remained faithful
- The prize



II Timothy 4:9-12



⁹ Timothy, please come as soon as you can. ¹⁰ Demas has deserted me because he loves the things of this life and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus has gone to Dalmatia. ¹¹ Only Luke is with me. Bring Mark with you when you come, for he will be helpful to me in my ministry. ¹² I sent Tychicus to Ephesus. ¹³ When you come, be sure to bring the coat I left with Carpus at Troas. Also bring my books, and especially my papers.

II Timothy 4:14-15



¹⁴ Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm, but the Lord will judge him for what he has done. ¹⁵ Be careful of him, for he fought against everything we said.

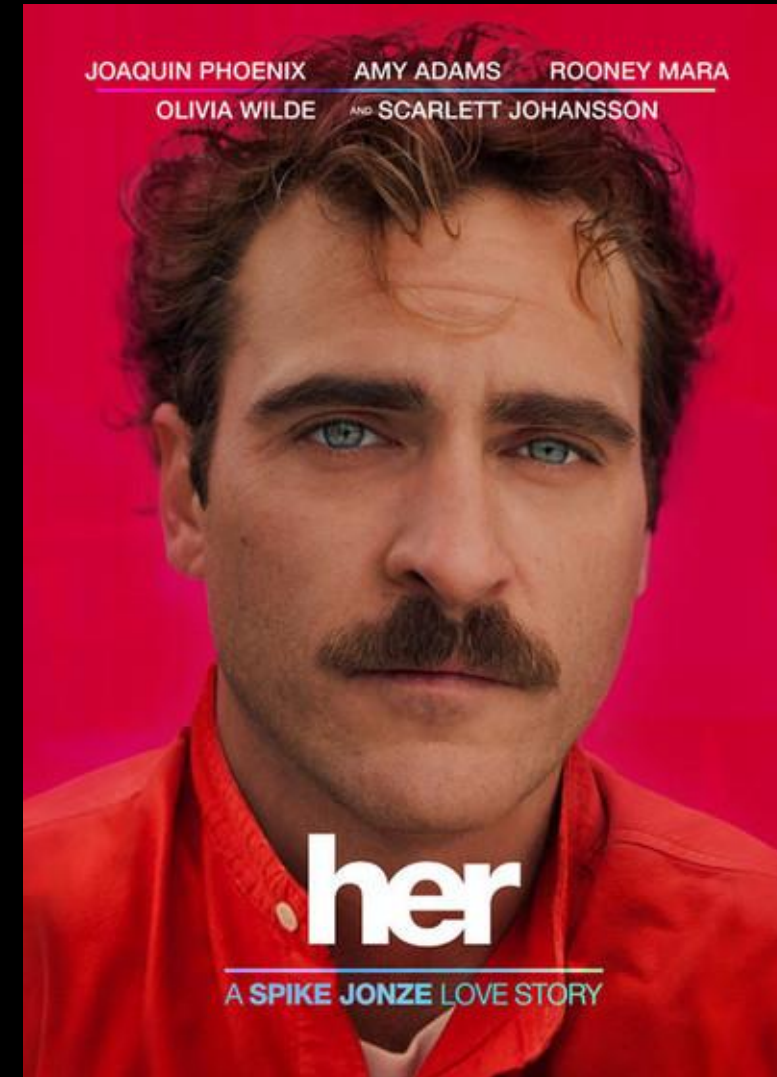
People

- Community
- Connections and relationships
- In contrast, *hikikomori* (social withdrawal)



People

- Modern society and isolation
- Social media



People

- Remedy to isolation: Christian fellowship

Hebrews 10:24-25

“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.”



People

- Christian fellowship

I Corinthians 12:27

“Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”



People

- Christian fellowship

John 15:5

“Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.”



People

- Christian fellowship

- Be part of Christian gatherings with purpose regularly:
 - Sunday service
 - Small groups and other more intimate meetings



People

- Christian fellowship

- Be committed, be faithful, and serve, for you are called to

1 Peter 2:9 (excerpt)

“...you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God’s very own possession...”



II Timothy 4:16-18

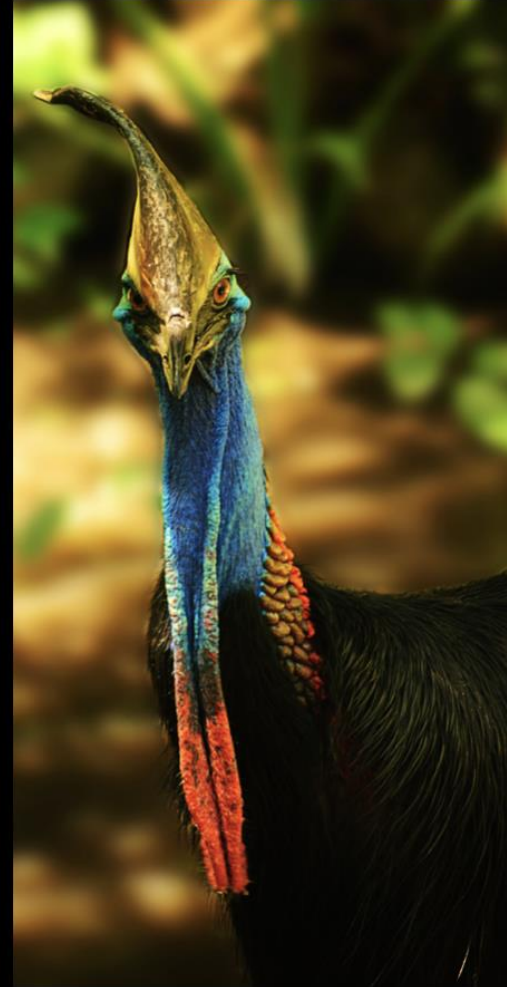


¹⁶ The first time I was brought before the judge, no one came with me. Everyone abandoned me. May it not be counted against them. ¹⁷ But the Lord stood with me and gave me strength so that I might preach the Good News in its entirety for all the Gentiles to hear. And he rescued me from certain death. ¹⁸ Yes, and the Lord will deliver me from every evil attack and will bring me safely into his heavenly Kingdom. All glory to God forever and ever! Amen.

Trials

- You may feel abandoned, but you are never alone

*When trials come no longer fear
For in the pain our God draws near
To fire a faith worth more than gold
And there his faithfulness is told
And there his faithfulness is told
Within the night I know your peace
The breath of God brings strength to me
And new each morning mercy flows
As treasures of the darkness grow
As treasures of the darkness grow*



II Timothy 4:19-22



¹⁹ Give my greetings to Priscilla and Aquila and those living in the household of Onesiphorus. ²⁰ Erastus stayed at Corinth, and I left Trophimus sick at Miletus.

²¹ Do your best to get here before winter. Eubulus sends you greetings, and so do Pudens, Linus, Claudia, and all the brothers and sisters.

²² May the Lord be with your spirit. And may his grace be with all of you.

- **Entrusted task**
 - Be in the Word
- **People**
 - Have fellowship often with other believers
- **Trials**
 - Always know He is with you



Somewhere in Australia...



