

**A reading from 2 Timothy chapter 2 verses 22 through 26. You can find the reading on page 996 in your pew Bible.**

So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

**The Word of the Lord.**  
***Thanks be to God.***

Please join me in praying Psalm 18.25-35.

Leader: With the merciful you show yourself merciful;  
with the blameless man you show yourself blameless;

**People: with the purified you show yourself pure;  
and with the crooked you make yourself  
seem tortuous.**

Leader: For you save a humble people,  
but the haughty eyes you bring down.

**People: For it is you who light my lamp;  
the LORD my God lightens my darkness.**

Leader: For by you I can run against a troop,  
and by my God I can leap over a wall.

**People: This God—his way is perfect;  
the word of the LORD proves true;  
he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.**

Leader: For who is God, but the LORD?  
And who is a rock, except our God?—

**People: the God who equipped me with strength  
and made my way blameless.  
He made my feet like the feet of a deer  
and set me secure on the heights.**

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Leader: He trains my hands for war,  
so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.

**People: You have given me the shield of your salvation,  
and your right hand supported me,  
and your gentleness made me great.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it  
was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen.***

**Leader: Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.**

*(allow them time to stand)*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew.**

***People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

**Leader: The Gospel of the Lord**

***People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.***