

# “Are You Ready?”

## Selections from 2 Timothy

January 11, 2026

Hartford Bible Church,

Dr. Robert Nix, President of the Berean Bible Institute  
(#’s in parentheses ( ) are verses in Psalm 34)

### 1. Situational awareness

2 Tim. 4:6-9 - not a passive letter, not a casual conversation.  
1:Tim. 4:1-3; 2 Tim. 3:1-5 - the storm is here. Be aware of this.

Gospel mentioned three times in 2 Timothy 1:  
1:1 - “the promise of life in Christ Jesus” (the gospel)  
1:8 - “for the gospel”  
1:10 - “life and immortality... through the gospel”

Don’t be ashamed three times in 2 Timothy 1: 1:8; 1:12; 1:16.

### 2. Situational preparedness

Need to prepare for the storm. We can be aware but not prepare. God does not make you prepare.

2 Tim. 2:3-5: Prepare like the soldier/athlete/farmer.  
Don’t get entangled, compete, work hard.  
2 Tim. 2:15 “Be diligent...” Focused!  
Accurately handle the Word.

### 3. Situational engagement.

Chapter 1 of 2 Timothy is the gospel,  
chapter 4 is judgment (4:1).

We’re in the storm. We’re prepared. Now engage!  
The gospel has never ceased to be the power of God (1:8)  
How do we engage? 1 Peter 3:15-17.  
People without Jesus have no hope.

## Fundamentals of the Faith Class

Dr. Nix’s sermon on January 11, 2026 (on the HBC website) is so important to the vision for 2026 at HBC. Situational awareness comes from the gospel of God. Situational preparedness comes from studying and knowing the gospel. Many of you at HBC have gone through the Fundamentals of the Faith book when you went through the membership class here. It is still used in pre-membership, but it is such an important foundation for all Christians, that Pastor Dan would like everyone at HBC to go through the book (and anyone reading this online).

We have ongoing classes that will go through the first 7 or so chapters, and we would love to have anyone and everyone in these classes. It is so beneficial to hear what others share as they go through the book.

This fundamental foundation will “prepare” us (to quote from Dr. Nix’s sermon) for the storm of the world that is here right now. Further preparation will become available that will teach us to defend these truths, called “apologetics.” Apologetics is “The branch of theology that is concerned with defending or proving the truth of Christian doctrines” (American Heritage Dictionary). It is not us apologizing for our faith, but is the English word derived from the Ancient Greek ἀπολογία (apología) ‘speech in defense.’ Defending your faith in Christ requires a basic knowledge of the Scriptures about salvation (Fundamentals of the Faith). Apologetics then leads easily into **Level 3: Evangelism**. Apologetics and evangelisms are “engagement,” as Dr. Nix said.

Every human being is called to salvation (**Level 1**), and the book Fundamentals of the Faith is a great book to understand this. Every Christian is called to be able to defend their faith and also to lead others to faith.

Please contact the church if you are interested in going through Fundamentals of the Faith with us to prepare for growth in your faith and service. Thanks!



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