

# Back to Basics

Part 1 of 2 First things First  
2 Timothy 1:12 • Pastor Dean Lancaster • January 6, 2019

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Paul tells his protegee, a young pastor named Timothy:

*For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day. (2 Timothy 1:12)*

Paul was reminding Timothy of the first things the basics, and as we begin 2019, we can do no better that to remind ourselves of these as well.

## We believe a person

“I know whom I have believed.”

Whom -not what: doctrine or theology or a denomination.

Whom -not when: a baptism or prayer or an altar call.

Whom -not that: my actions or ministries I perform or my faith.

## We have a personal relationship with that person

**2 Timothy 1:12** *That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.*

No one can have a personal relationship with Christ for us, it has to be done by us, and be between us and Jesus.

Paul used the pronoun “I” six times in this one verse.

## We have a conviction about that person

*...I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him... (2 Tim 1:12)*

I know -rational knowledge

I believe -mental agreement

I am convinced -emotional decision

I trust - willful activity

The Gospel is not just about evangelism.

The Gospel permeates, meaning it is present and a part of everything we do here at Hope Church.

We cannot go beyond the Gospel, but we can go deeper.

## Take this with you...

A saving faith is a relationship with a person, not a church, creed, or activity.

Belief, as the Bible defines it is more than knowledge.

Answer this question: Am I impressed with Jesus or am I surrendered to him?

The Gospel is all we have and all we need.