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Translation Notes (unfoldingWord)

2 Timothy 1:1 (#1)

"Paul, an apostle"

In this culture, letter writers would give their own names first, referring to themselves in the third person. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use the first person here. Or if your language has a particular way of introducing the author of a letter, and if it would be helpful to your readers, you could use it here. Alternate translation: "From Paul. I am an apostle"

See: First, Second or Third Person

2 Timothy 1:1 (#2)

"through the will of God"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **will**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "because that is what God wanted" or "because of what God decided"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:1 (#3)

"according to"

Here, the phrase **according to** could indicate: (1) that the purpose for which Paul is an **apostle** is to tell others about **the promise of life**. Alternate translation: "for the purpose of declaring" (2) that the reason why Paul is an **apostle** is **the promise of life**. Alternate translation: "because of" (3) that God's **will** contains or includes **the promise of life**. Alternate translation: "which will contains"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:1 (#4)

"the promise of life"

Here, Paul is using the possessive form to describe a **promise** that promises **life**. If this is not clear in your language, you could express the idea in

another way. Alternate translation: "the promise that guarantees life"

See: Possession

2 Timothy 1:1 (#5)

"of life that {is} in Christ Jesus"

Here Paul uses the spatial metaphor **in Christ Jesus** to describe **life** that can only be experienced when someone is in union with **Christ Jesus**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a phrase that indicates that this **life** can only be experienced when people are united to **Christ Jesus**. Alternate translation: "of life that is received in union with Christ Jesus" or "of life that is gained when people are united to Christ Jesus"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 1:1 (#6)

"of life that {is}"

Here Paul is referring to new, eternal **life** with God. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "of eternal life that is" or "of new life with God that is"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:1 (#7)

"of life that {is}"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **life**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "about living forever, which people do"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:2 (#1)

"to Timothy"

In this culture, after giving their own names, letter writers would name those to whom they sent the

letter, referring to them in the third person. If that is confusing in your language, you could use the second person here. Or if your language has a particular way of introducing the recipient of a letter, and if it would be helpful to your readers, you could use it here. Alternate translation: "This letter is for you, Timothy"

See: First, Second or Third Person

2 Timothy 1:2 (#2)

"beloved child"

Paul speaks of his close relationship to Timothy as though Timothy were his **beloved child**. Paul means that he is Timothy's spiritual father, and Paul loves Timothy in the way a father loves his child. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "who is like a beloved child to me" or "a beloved spiritual son"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 1:2 (#3)

"beloved child"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, it is clear from the context that it was Paul. Alternate translation: "child whom I love"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 1:2 (#4)

"Grace, mercy, peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord"

After stating his name and the name of the person to whom he is writing, Paul adds a blessing for Timothy. Use a form that people would recognize as a blessing in your language. Alternate translation: "May you experience grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord" or "I pray that grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord will always be with you"

See: Blessings

2 Timothy 1:2 (#5)

"Grace, mercy, peace"

If your language does not use abstract nouns for the ideas of **Grace**, **mercy**, and **peace**, you could express the same ideas in another way. Alternate translation: "May you be treated graciously, mercifully, and peacefully by God the Father and by Christ Jesus our Lord"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:2 (#6)

"God the Father"

Father is an important title for God the **Father** that describes his relationship with **Jesus**, his Son.

See: Translating Son and Father

2 Timothy 1:2 (#7)

"our"

In this letter, Paul uses the words **our**, "we," and "us" to refer either to Timothy and himself or else to all believers, which would also include the two of them. So, use the inclusive forms of those words throughout your translation if your language marks that distinction.

See: Exclusive and Inclusive 'We'

2 Timothy 1:3 (#1)

"I have gratitude"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **gratitude**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "I am grateful" or "I am thankful"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:3 (#2)

"whom I serve from my ancestors"

Here Paul means that he serves God in the same way that his **ancestors** did. If it would be helpful in

your language, you could use a comparable phrase or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “whom I serve in the way I received from my ancestors” or “whom my ancestors served and I serve as well”

See: Idiom

2 Timothy 1:3 (#3)

"with a pure conscience"

A **conscience** that is **pure** is one that does not convict a person of doing anything wrong. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable phrase or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “with a clean conscience” or “with a conscience that is not guilty”

See: Idiom

2 Timothy 1:3 (#4)

"as I have the constant remembrance concerning you"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **remembrance**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: “as I remember you constantly” or “as I think about you constantly”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:3 (#5)

"you"

In this letter, with one exception, the words **you**, “your,” and “yourself” refer to Timothy and so are singular. A note will discuss the one exception in [4:22](#).

See: Forms of ‘You’ — Singular

2 Timothy 1:3 (#6)

"night and day"

Here, the phrase **night and day** indicates that Paul prays during both the day and the night. This means that he was praying very often every day. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable phrase or state the meaning plainly.

Alternate translation: “all the time” or “during every day and every night”

See: Idiom

2 Timothy 1:4 (#1)

"remembering your tears"

Here Paul implies that Timothy shed **tears** when Paul had to leave Timothy. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: “remembering your tears when we separated” or “remembering your tears when I said goodbye to you”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:4 (#2)

"your tears"

Here, the word **tears** represents the act of shedding **tears**, that is, crying. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use an equivalent expression from your language or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “your weeping” or “your sadness”

See: Metonymy

2 Timothy 1:4 (#3)

"I may be filled with joy"

Paul speaks of himself as if he were a container that could be **filled with joy**. He means that he will experience very much **joy**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “I may have very much joy” or “I may rejoice a lot”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 1:4 (#4)

"I may be filled with joy"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. Alternate translation: “joy may fill me”

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 1:4 (#5)

"I may be filled with joy"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **joy**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "may become joyful"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:5 (#1)

"having received remembrance"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **remembrance**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "having remembered" or "having been reminded"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:5 (#2)

"of the sincere faith in you which dwelt first"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **faith**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "that you sincerely believe, which was true first"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:5 (#3)

"of the sincere faith in you"

Here Paul speaks of **faith** as if it were an object inside of Timothy. He means that Timothy truly has this **faith**, not that people are trusting in Timothy. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "of your genuine faith" or "of your faith that is genuine"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 1:5 (#4)

"which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded that {it is} also in you"

Here Paul speaks as if Timothy, **Lois**, and **Eunice** were houses that faith has **dwelt** in. He means that they all truly have faith. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "which your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice had, and I am persuaded that you also have it"

See: Personification

2 Timothy 1:5 (#5)

"your grandmother"

Paul does not indicate whether this **grandmother** is the mother of Timothy's father or mother. If you must specify, the connection with Timothy's mother might imply that she was the mother of Timothy's mother. Alternate translation: "your maternal grandmother"

See: Kinship

2 Timothy 1:5 (#6)

"Lois" - "Eunice"

The words **Lois** and **Eunice** are the names of women.

See: How to Translate Names

2 Timothy 1:5 (#7)

"I am persuaded"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. Alternate translation: "I am sure" or "I am confident"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 1:6 (#1)

"For which reason"

Here, the phrase **which reason** refers back to the fact of Timothy's sincere faith (see 1:5). If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "because of which sincere faith"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:6 (#2)

"to rekindle the gift"

Here Paul speaks of Timothy's **gift** as if it were a fire that he needed **to rekindle**. He could mean that: (1) Timothy needs to use his **gift** more than he has in the past. Alternate translation: "to make use even more of the gift" (2) Timothy needs to start using his **gift** again, with the implication being that he has stopped using it consistently. Alternate translation: "to be eager once more to use the gift"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 1:6 (#3)

"the gift of God that is in you"

Paul speaks of Timothy as if he were a container that could hold **the gift of God**. He means that Timothy has this gift. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "the gift of God that you have"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 1:6 (#4)

"the gift of God that is in you"

Here Paul implies that this **gift** is a specific ability or skill that **God** had given Timothy for his ministry. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "the skill that you have as a gift from God" or "the gift of God in you, your special ability,"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:6 (#5)

"through the laying on of my hands"

Here Paul is speaking of a ceremony during which he put his **hands** on Timothy. When he did that, he was commissioning Timothy to use his gift and to proclaim the gospel. If it would be helpful in your language, you could refer to a comparable action in your culture, or you could explain what this action means. Alternate translation: "through the laying on of my hands to commission you" or "once I authorized you by laying my hands on you"

See: Symbolic Action

2 Timothy 1:7 (#1)

"For"

Here, the word **For** introduces a reason why Timothy should rekindle his gift (1:6). If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces a reason or basis for an exhortation, or you could leave **For** untranslated. Alternate translation: "You should do that because" or "I remind you of that because"

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

2 Timothy 1:7 (#2)

"a spirit of cowardice but of power and of love and of self-control"

Here, the word **spirit** could refer to: (1) the **spirit** of a person, which refers to the inner life of a person, that is, how that person thinks, feels, and makes decisions. Alternate translation: "an attitude of fear but of power and of love and of disposition" or "a heart of fear but a heart of power and of love and of disciple" (2) the Holy Spirit. Alternate translation: "the Holy Spirit to make us cowardly but to make us powerful and loving and self-controlled"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:7 (#3)

"of cowardice but of power and of love and of self-control"

If your language does not use abstract nouns for the ideas of **fear**, **power**, **love**, and **self-control**, you could express the same ideas in another way. Alternate translation: "that makes us cowardly but

one that makes us powerful, loving, and self-controlled"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:7 (#4)

"of self-control"

Here, the word **self-control** could refer to: (1) the ability to control or restrain one's desires. Alternate translation: "of moderation" or "of personal restraint" (2) the ability to make wise decisions. Alternate translation: "of prudence" or "of clear thinking"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:8 (#1)

"Therefore"

Here, the word **Therefore** includes an exhortation that is based on what Paul said in the previous verse about having power, love, and self-control instead of fear. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a different word or phrase that introduces an exhortation based on a previous statement. Alternate translation: "So then" or "Because you have that spirit"

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

2 Timothy 1:8 (#2)

"do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me, his prisoner"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. Alternate translation: "do not let the testimony of our Lord, nor me, his prisoner, shame you"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 1:8 (#3)

"the testimony of our Lord"

Here, Paul is using the possessive form to describe **testimony** that is about **our Lord**. If this is not clear in your language, you could express the idea in another way. Alternate translation: "the

testimony concerning our Lord" or "testifying about our Lord"

See: Possession

2 Timothy 1:8 (#4)

"his prisoner"

Here, Paul is using the possessive form to describe himself as a **prisoner** because of how he serves Jesus. If this is not clear in your language, you could express the idea in another way. Alternate translation: "a prisoner for his sake" or "a prisoner because I serve the Lord"

See: Possession

2 Timothy 1:8 (#5)

"suffer together"

Here, the phrase **suffer together** could indicate that Timothy should suffer with: (1) Paul. Alternate translation: "suffer together with me" (2) all Christians who suffer. Alternate translation: "suffer together with other believers"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:8 (#6)

"for the gospel"

Here Paul implies that Timothy should be willing to suffer as he believes in and proclaims **the gospel**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "as you preach the gospel" or "for the sake of believing and proclaiming the gospel"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:8 (#7)

"according to the power of God"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **power**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "as God empowers you" or "which God will make you able to do"

See: Abstract Nouns

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 1:9 (#1)

"to a holy calling"

Here, the phrase **holy calling** could refer to: (1) the result of being called, which is to be **holy**. Alternate translation: "to be holy people" (2) the way in which God called, which is a **holy** way. Alternate translation: "with a holy calling" "by means of a holy calling"

See: Metonymy

2 Timothy 1:9 (#2)

"not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, the {grace} having been given to us"

If your language does not use abstract nouns for the ideas of **works**, **purpose**, or **grace**, you could express the same ideas in another way. Alternate translation: "not according to the things we do, but according to what he decided ahead of time and graciously did, which he did for us"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:9 (#3)

"according to his own purpose and grace"

Here, the words **purpose** and **grace** could: (1) refer to two separate things **according to** which God saved and called believers. Alternate translation: "according to both his own purpose and his grace" (2) refer to one thing described with two words connected by **and**. This is called hendiadys. Alternate translation: "according to his own gracious purpose"

See: Hendiadys

2 Timothy 1:9 (#4)

"the {grace} having been given"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, it is clear from the context that it was God. Alternate translation: "which God gave"

2 Timothy 1:9 (#5)

"in Christ Jesus before eternal times"

Here Paul uses the spatial metaphor **in Christ Jesus** to describe the union of believers with **Christ Jesus**. In this case, being **in Christ Jesus**, or united to Christ, is the only way in which believers are given grace. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a phrase that indicates that the grace is given to believers as part of their union with **Christ Jesus**. Alternate translation: "before eternal times in union with Christ Jesus" or "before eternal times as part of being united to Christ Jesus"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 1:9 (#6)

"before eternal times"

Here Paul is indicating that God did this **before** God made the world and before time began to be counted. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable phrase or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "before time began" or "before God made anything"

See: Idiom

2 Timothy 1:10 (#1)

"and now having been revealed"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, it is clear from the context that it was God. Alternate translation: "which now God has revealed" or "which now God has allowed people to know"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 1:10 (#2)

"through the appearance of our Savior Christ Jesus"

Here, the word **appearance** refers to when Jesus became a human being, lived on earth, died, and

rose again. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: “through how our Savior Christ Jesus became a man and lived, died, and rose again” or “through the incarnation of our Savior Christ Jesus”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:10 (#3)

"both having abolished death"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **death**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: “both having enabled dead people to be dead no longer”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:10 (#4)

"and having brought to light life and immortality through the gospel"

Here Paul speaks as if Jesus used **the gospel** to shine a **light** on **life and immortality**. He means that, by using **the gospel**, Jesus revealed how people can have **life and immortality**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “and having taught us about life and immortality through the gospel” or “and having revealed life and immortality through the gospel”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 1:10 (#5)

"life and immortality"

If your language does not use abstract nouns for the ideas of **life** and **immortality**, you could express the same ideas in another way. Alternate translation: “being able to live and be immortal”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:10 (#6)

"life and immortality"

The two words **life** and **immortality** express a single idea. The word **immortality** describes what

kind of **life** Paul is speaking about. If it would be more natural in your language, you could express this meaning in a different way. Alternate translation: “immortal life”

See: Hendiadys

2 Timothy 1:10 (#7)

"life"

Here Paul is referring to new, eternal life with God. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: “eternal life” or “new life with God”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:11 (#1)

"for which"

Here, the pronoun **which** refers back to “the gospel” in the previous verse. If this is not clear for your readers, you could refer to “the gospel” more directly. Alternate translation: “for which gospel”

See: Pronouns — When to Use Them

2 Timothy 1:11 (#2)

"I was appointed"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, it is clear from the context that it was God. Alternate translation: “God appointed me”

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 1:11 (#3)

"a herald"

A **herald** is someone who is sent out to announce a message. If your readers would not be familiar with a person who performs this kind of task, you could use the name of something similar in your area or you could use a more general term. Alternate translations: “an announcer” or “a messenger”

See: Translate Unknowns

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 1:11 (#4)

"a teacher"

Many ancient manuscripts read **a teacher**. The ULT follows that reading. Other ancient manuscripts read "a teacher of the Gentiles." If a translation of the Bible exists in your region, you may wish to use the reading that it uses. If a translation of the Bible does not exist in your region, you may wish to use the reading of the ULT.

See: Textual Variants

2 Timothy 1:12 (#1)

"for which reason"

Here, the phrase which reason refers back to the fact that Paul was appointed to be a herald, apostle, and teacher (see [1:11](#)). If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "because of which appointment" or "and so"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:12 (#2)

"I also suffer these things"

Here Paul does not mention the specific **things** that he is suffering, but from the context of the letter, Timothy would have known that he was referring to suffering as a prisoner (see [2:9](#)). If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "I also suffer as a prisoner" or "I also suffer while I am in jail"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:12 (#3)

"I am not ashamed"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who would do the action, it is clear from the context that it would be the things that Paul is suffering. Alternate translation: "that does not shame me"

2 Timothy 1:12 (#4)

"in whom"

The pronoun **whom** could refer: (1) to God generally. Alternate translation: "God, in whom" (2) to Jesus specifically. Alternate translation: "Jesus, in whom"

See: Pronouns — When to Use Them

2 Timothy 1:12 (#5)

"I have been persuaded"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. Alternate translation: "I am confident" or "I know"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 1:12 (#6)

"to guard my deposit"

Here, Paul is using the possessive form to describe a **deposit** that could be: (1) something that Paul has entrusted to God. Alternate translation: "to guard the deposit from me" (2) something that God has entrusted to Paul. Alternate translation: "to guard the deposit given to me"

See: Possession

2 Timothy 1:12 (#7)

"to guard my deposit"

Here Paul speaks as if God were guarding a **deposit** of money or goods. He means that God will protect or preserve the **deposit**. What the **deposit** represents depends on what you chose in the previous note about who gave the **deposit** to whom. If the **deposit**: (1) was given by Paul to God, then it could represent Paul himself, the rewards he will receive, or his resurrection life. Alternate translation: "to protect my true life" or "to preserve me" (2) was given by God to Paul, then it could represent the gospel or Paul's ministry. Alternate

translation: "to protect the gospel given to me" or "to preserve my ministry"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 1:12 (#8)

"that day"

Here Paul is referring to the exact moment when Jesus will return to this world, which will also be the end of the current time period. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "that day when Jesus will return" or "Jesus' second coming"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:13 (#1)

"Hold the pattern"

Here Paul indicates that he wants Timothy to maintain the basic form and content of the **healthy words**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "Maintain the form" or "Preserve the core content"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:13 (#2)

"of healthy words"

Here Paul speaks as if **words** could be **healthy**. He means that these **words** are good and reliable in every way and have no defect or corruption. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "of words that are like healthy food" or "of correct words"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 1:13 (#3)

"of healthy words"

Here, **words** represents things spoken using words. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use an equivalent expression from your language or state the meaning plainly. Alternate

translation: "of healthy statements" or "of healthy declarations"

See: Metonymy

2 Timothy 1:13 (#4)

"in faith and love {that are} in Christ Jesus"

If your language does not use abstract nouns for the ideas of **faith** and **love**, you could express the same ideas in another way. Alternate translation: "believing and loving, which you can do in Christ Jesus"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:13 (#5)

"that are} in Christ Jesus"

Here, the phrase **in Christ Jesus** could describe: (1) both **faith** and **love**. Alternate translation: "that are both in Christ Jesus" (2) just **love**. Alternate translation: "that is in Christ Jesus"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:13 (#6)

"that are} in Christ Jesus"

Paul uses the spatial metaphor **in Christ Jesus** to describe the union of believers with Christ. In this case, being **in Christ Jesus**, or united to **Christ Jesus**, explains how Timothy can have **faith** and **love**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a phrase that indicates that Timothy can have **faith** and **love** as one who has been united to **Christ Jesus**. Alternate translation: "that are in union with Christ Jesus" or "that come from being united to Christ Jesus"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 1:14 (#1)

"Guard the good deposit"

Here, the phrase **good deposit** refers to something that has been entrusted to Timothy and that he must **Guard**. More specifically, the **good deposit** is the gospel, which God entrusted to Timothy. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make

that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "guard the good deposit of the gospel" or "guard the good gospel, which God entrusted to you,"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:14 (#2)

"through the Holy Spirit"

Alternate translation: "with the help of the Holy Spirit"

2 Timothy 1:14 (#3)

"the one dwelling in us"

Here Paul speaks as if believers were buildings that the **Holy Spirit** were **dwelling in**. He means that the Holy Spirit is with believers in a special way and empowers them. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "who is always with us as if he were dwelling in us" or "the one who is with us to give us power"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 1:15 (#1)

"You know this, that"

Here, the word **this** refers directly ahead to the phrase **all the ones in Asia turned away from me**. Paul expresses the idea in this way because it was powerful in his language. If using the word **this** to refer to what someone is about to say would be redundant in your language, you could omit the redundant information and make the expression powerful in another way. Alternate translation: "You surely know that"

See: Making Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information Explicit

2 Timothy 1:15 (#2)

"all the ones in Asia"

Paul says **all** here as an overstatement to emphasize how many believers turned away from him. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a different way to express the emphasis.

Alternate translation: "most of the people who believe in Asia"

See: Hyperbole

2 Timothy 1:15 (#3)

"the ones in Asia"

Here, the phrase **the ones in Asia** could refer to: (1) believers who are living in **Asia**. Alternate translation: "the believers living in Asia" (2) believers who are from **Asia** but who were with Paul where he was imprisoned, which was probably Rome. Alternate translation: "the believers from Asia" or "the ones who came with me from Asia"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:15 (#4)

"turned away from me"

Here Paul speaks of people who stopped listening to him and helping him as if they had **turned away from** him. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "turned their backs on me" or "abandoned me"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 1:15 (#5)

"turned away from me"

Here Paul implies that these people **turned away** because Paul was accused of doing what was wrong and put in jail. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "turned away from me when I was accused" or "turned away from me because I am in prison"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:15 (#6)

"Phygelus" - "Hermogenes"

The words **Phygelus** and **Hermogenes** are the names of men.

See: How to Translate Names

2 Timothy 1:16 (#1)

"May the Lord give mercy to the household of Onesiphorus"

Here Paul asks God to bless the family of **Onesiphorus**. Use a form that people would recognize as a blessing in your language. Alternate translation: "I ask the Lord to give mercy to the household of Onesiphorus" or "I pray that the household of Onesiphorus will have mercy from the Lord"

See: Blessings

2 Timothy 1:16 (#2)

"May the Lord give mercy"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **mercy**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "May the Lord be merciful"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:16 (#3)

"of Onesiphorus"

The word **Onesiphorus** is the name of a man.

See: How to Translate Names

2 Timothy 1:16 (#4)

"was not ashamed of my chain"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. Alternate translation: "my chain did not shame him"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 1:16 (#5)

"my chain"

Here, **chain** represents imprisonment, or being in jail. If it would be helpful in your language, you

could use an equivalent expression from your language or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "my imprisonment" or "me being in prison"

See: Metonymy

2 Timothy 1:17 (#1)

"but"

Here, the word **but** introduces what Onesiphorus did instead of being ashamed of Paul. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces this kind of contrast, or you could leave **but** untranslated. Alternate translation: "but instead," or "and rather,"

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

2 Timothy 1:17 (#2)

"in Rome"

Here Paul implies that he was in prison in **Rome**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "in Rome, where I am,"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:18 (#1)

"May the Lord give to him to find mercy from the Lord in that day. And as much as he served in Ephesus, you know very well"

If it would be helpful in your language, you could reverse the order of these sentences, since the second sentence continues to describe what Onesiphorus did, as the previous verse does. Alternate translation: "And as much as he served in Ephesus, you know very well. May the Lord give to him to find mercy from the Lord in that day"

See: Information Structure

2 Timothy 1:18 (#2)

"May the Lord give to him to find mercy from the Lord"

Here Paul again asks God to bless Onesiphorus. Use a form that people would recognize as a blessing in

your language. See how you translated the similar blessing in [1:16](#). Alternate translation: “I ask the Lord to give to him to find mercy from the Lord” or “I pray that he will have mercy from the Lord”

See: Blessings

2 Timothy 1:18 (#3)

"to find mercy from the Lord"

Here Paul speaks of **mercy** as if it were an object that Onesiphorus could **find**. He means that he wants Onesiphorus to experience **mercy**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “to receive mercy from the Lord”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 1:18 (#4)

"to find mercy from the Lord"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **mercy**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: “to be treated mercifully by the Lord”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 1:18 (#5)

"in that day"

Here Paul is referring to the exact moment when Jesus will return to this world, which will also be when he judges everyone. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: “on that day when Jesus will return” or “at the final judgment”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 1:18 (#6)

"as much as he served"

Here Paul could be implying that Onesiphorus **served**: (1) Paul specifically. Alternate translation: “as much as he served me” (2) believers in general. Alternate translation: “as much as he served believers”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:1 (#1)

"You, therefore"

Here, the word **therefore** could introduce: (1) an inference from [1:15-18](#). In this case, Paul wants Timothy to act like Onesiphorus and not like Phygelus and Hermogenes. Alternate translation: “Like those who have not abandoned me, you too” or “In contrast to Phygelus and Hermogenes, you” (2) an inference from most or all of chapter 1. Alternate translation: “Given all that, you” (3) further exhortation to Timothy that is not based on anything specific. Alternate translation: “Now you”

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

2 Timothy 2:1 (#2)

"my child"

Paul speaks of his close relationship to Timothy as though Timothy were his **child**. Paul means that he is Timothy’s spiritual father, and Paul loves Timothy in the way a father loves his child. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “who are like a child to me” or “my spiritual son”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:1 (#3)

"be strengthened"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who does the action, you could indicate that it is: (1) God. Alternate translation: “let God strengthen you” (2) Timothy himself. Alternate translation: “strengthen yourself”

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 2:1 (#4)

"in the grace {that is} in Christ Jesus"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **grace**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: “in the way that God acts graciously toward you in Christ Jesus”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:1 (#5)

"in the grace"

Here, the word **in** could introduce: (1) the circumstance in which Timothy is **strengthened**. Alternate translation: “while you experience the grace” (2) the means by which Timothy is **strengthened**. Alternate translation: “by the grace”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:1 (#6)

"that is} in Christ Jesus"

Here Paul uses the spatial metaphor **in Christ Jesus** to describe the union of believers with Christ Jesus. In this case, being **in Christ Jesus**, or united to **Christ Jesus**, is the way in which Timothy is given **grace**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a phrase that indicates that the **grace** is given to Timothy as part of his union with **Christ Jesus**. Alternate translation: “that is given in union with Christ Jesus” or “that you have because you are united to Christ Jesus”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:2 (#1)

"through many witnesses"

Here, the phrase **through many witnesses** could indicate that: (1) many people have witnessed or testified to the truth of what Paul has taught Timothy. Alternate translation: “that many witnesses have affirmed” (2) Timothy has been taught by Paul in the presence of many people who can witness or testify to what Paul said. Alternate translation: “in the presence of many witnesses”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:2 (#2)

"place these things before"

Paul speaks of his teachings as if they were objects that Timothy could physically **place** before other people. He means that Timothy should give these people the same teachings that Paul gave to Timothy. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translations: “pass these things on to” or “speak these things to”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:2 (#3)

"faithful men"

Although the term **men** is masculine, Paul is using the word in a generic sense that includes both men and women. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a phrase that makes this clear. Alternate translation: “to faithful men and women”

See: When Masculine Words Include Women

2 Timothy 2:3 (#1)

"Suffer together"

Here, the phrase **Suffer together** could indicate that Timothy should suffer with: (1) Paul. Alternate translation: “Suffer together with me” (2) all Christians who suffer. Alternate translation: “Suffer together with other believers”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:3 (#2)

"Suffer together"

Many ancient manuscripts read **Suffer together**. The ULT follows that reading. Other ancient manuscripts read “You, therefore, suffer.” If a translation of the Bible exists in your region, you may wish to use the reading that it uses. If a translation of the Bible does not exist in your region, you may wish to use the reading of the ULT.

See: Textual Variants

2 Timothy 2:3 (#3)

"as a good soldier of Jesus Christ"

Here Paul speaks as if Timothy were a **soldier** who fights for and serves **Jesus Christ**. A **good soldier** is one who obeys his commander even if that means suffering and pain. So, Timothy will be like a **good soldier** when he obeys Jesus even if that means that he will **Suffer together** with Paul. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "as if you were a good soldier and Jesus Christ were your commander" or "as someone who faithfully serves Jesus Christ no matter what happens"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:4 (#1)

"No one serving as a soldier is entangled in the affairs of life, so that he may please the one having enlisted him"

Here Paul continues to speak about a **soldier** to help Timothy understand how to behave. Just as a soldier focuses on pleasing his commander, so Timothy should focus on pleasing Jesus. To do so, he will have to avoid becoming **entangled in the affairs of life**. Since Paul tells Timothy in [2:7](#) to think carefully about the examples that he gives in this verse and in [2:5-6](#), you should not explain the meaning of this metaphor here. However, if it would be helpful in your language, you could use a form that indicates that Paul is using a metaphor or giving an example. Alternate translation: "Imagine that you are a soldier. No one serving as a soldier is entangled in the affairs of life, so that he may please the one having enlisted him"

See: Biblical Imagery — Extended Metaphors

2 Timothy 2:4 (#2)

"is entangled in the affairs of life"

Paul speaks of **the affairs of life** as if they were a net that could trap people and keep them from being able to move freely. He means that **the affairs of life** would prevent a soldier from doing what he is supposed to do. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate

translation: "is trapped by the affairs of life" or "is distracted by the affairs of life"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:4 (#3)

"is entangled"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. Alternate translation: "entangles himself"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 2:4 (#4)

"in the affairs of life"

Here, the phrase **the affairs of life** refers to the normal things that people who are not soldiers do and care about, including having a job and owning a home. If it would be helpful in your language, you could refer to those things more explicitly. Alternate translation: "in the normal tasks of everyday life" or "in the everyday jobs of civilian life"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:4 (#5)

"the one having enlisted him"

Alternate translation: "his leader" or "the one who commands him"

2 Timothy 2:5 (#1)

"But also"

Here, the phrase **But also** introduces another example or metaphor that Paul uses to explain how Timothy should serve Jesus. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces another example, or you could leave **But also** untranslated. Alternate translation: "Further" or "Similarly"

See: Connecting Words and Phrases

2 Timothy 2:5 (#2)

"if anyone competes, he is not crowned if he has not competed lawfully"

Here Paul speaks about an athlete who **competes** in a sport. He speaks about this to help Timothy understand how to behave. Just as an athlete will only receive the crown given to the winner if he competes **lawfully**, so Timothy will only be rewarded if he serves Jesus **lawfully**, that is, as Jesus desires. Since Paul tells Timothy in [2:7](#) to think carefully about the examples that he gives in this verse and in [2:4](#) and [2:6](#), you should not explain the meaning of this metaphor here. However, if it would be helpful in your language, you could use a form that indicates that Paul is using a metaphor or giving an example. Alternate translation: "imagine that you are an athlete. If anyone competes as an athlete, he is not crowned if he has not competed lawfully"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:5 (#3)

"if anyone competes, he is not crowned if he has not competed lawfully"

Here Paul uses an imaginary situation to show what happens when athletes do not compete **lawfully**. Use a natural method in your language for introducing an imaginary situation. Alternate translation: "suppose someone did not compete lawfully. In that case, he would not be crowned"

See: Hypothetical Situations

2 Timothy 2:5 (#4)

"competes"

Here, the word **competes** refers specifically to competing in an athletic event. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "competes in an athletic event" or "competes as an athlete"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:5 (#5)

"he is not crowned if he has not competed lawfully"

If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning in positive form. Alternate translation: "he can only be crowned if he has competed lawfully"

See: Double Negatives

2 Timothy 2:5 (#6)

"he is not crowned"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who would do the action, it is clear from the context that it would be the officials or referees who were judging the competition. Alternate translation: "the officials will not crown him"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 2:5 (#7)

"he is not crowned"

In Paul's culture, when athletes won competitions, they were **crowned** with wreaths made from the leaves of plants. If your readers would not be familiar with this custom, you could refer to how athletes are recognized as winners in your culture, or you could use a more general statement. Alternate translation: "he is not given an award" or "he is not declared the winner"

See: Translate Unknowns

2 Timothy 2:5 (#8)

"he has not competed lawfully"

Here Paul refers to the rules that governed a competition. The athletes had to obey the rules, or they would be removed from the competition and not have an opportunity to win. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "he has not competed according to the rules of the competition"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:6 (#1)

"It is necessary for the hardworking farmer first to share in the fruits"

Here Paul speaks about a **farmer** who is **hardworking**. He speaks about this to help Timothy understand how to behave. Just as this kind of **farmer** should be **first to share in the fruits**, so Timothy will be **first** to receive rewards if he works hard to serve Jesus. Since Paul tells Timothy in [2:7](#) to think carefully about the examples that he gives in this verse and in [2:4-5](#), you should not explain the meaning of this metaphor here. However, if it would be helpful in your language, you could use a form that indicates that Paul is using a metaphor or giving an example. Alternate translation: "Now imagine that you are a farmer. It is necessary for the hardworking farmer first to share in the fruits"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:6 (#2)

"for the hardworking farmer"

The word **farmer** represents farmers in general, not one particular farmer. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in another way. Alternate translation: "any hardworking farmer"

See: Generic Noun Phrases

2 Timothy 2:6 (#3)

"first to share in the fruits"

Here Paul implies that other people will **share in the fruits**, but the farmer is one who should **share in** them **first**. In other words, he is the one who deserves to receive the benefits of his work before anyone else does. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "to share in the fruits before anyone else does" or "to receive the first share of the fruits"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:7 (#1)

"Think about what I am saying"

Here Paul means that Timothy should **Think about** what Paul has written about soldiers, athletes, and farmers ([2:4-6](#)). He wants Timothy to apply these examples to himself as he serves Jesus. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "Think about the examples I have given" or "Think about what I have said about soldiers, athletes, and farmers"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:7 (#2)

"will give you understanding"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **understanding**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "will help you to understand"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:7 (#3)

"in everything"

Here, the phrase **in everything** could refer to: (1) everything related to the three examples that Paul has given to Timothy in the previous verses. Alternate translation: "about everything that I have just said" or "about all those examples" (2) everything that Timothy needs to know to serve Jesus well. Alternate translation: "about everything that you need to know" or "about all things related to serving him"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:8 (#1)

"Remember"

Here, the word **Remember** indicates that Timothy should think consistently about **Jesus Christ**. It does not imply that Timothy might completely forget about **Jesus Christ**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "Concentrate on" or "Consistently think about"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:8 (#2)

"having been raised from the dead, from the seed of David"

Jesus was born **from the seed of David** before he was **raised from the dead**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could reverse the order of these clauses to express the ideas in sequential order. Alternate translation: "from the seed of David, having been raised from the dead"

See: Order of Events

2 Timothy 2:8 (#3)

"having been raised"

Here, the word **raised** refers to someone who died coming back to life. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable idiom or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "having been restored to life"

See: Idiom

2 Timothy 2:8 (#4)

"having been raised"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, Paul implies that God did it. Alternate translation: "whom God has raised"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 2:8 (#5)

"from the dead"

Paul is using the adjective **dead** as a noun in order to refer to people who are **dead**. Your language may use adjectives in the same way. If not, you could translate this with a noun phrase. Alternate translation: "from among the dead people" or "from the corpses"

See: Nominal Adjectives

2 Timothy 2:8 (#6)

"from the seed of David"

Here Paul speaks as if Jesus were a plant that grew from a **seed** that came from **David**. He means that Jesus is a descendant of **David**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "who is descended from David"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:8 (#7)

"according to my gospel"

Here, Paul is using the possessive form to describe the **gospel** that God gave to him to preach. If this is not clear in your language, you could express the idea in another way. Alternate translation: "according to the gospel message that I preach" or "according to the gospel that was given to me"

See: Possession

2 Timothy 2:9 (#1)

"even to chains"

Here, **chains** represents imprisonment. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use an equivalent expression from your language or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "even to imprisonment" or "even up to being imprisoned"

See: Metonymy

2 Timothy 2:9 (#2)

"like a criminal"

Paul is saying that he is being treated **like a criminal** because he has been put in jail with those who break laws. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state that explicitly. Alternate translation: "like someone who has committed crimes" or "like someone who has disobeyed the government"

See: Simile

2 Timothy 2:9 (#3)

"the word of God has not been bound"

Here Paul speaks as if **the word of God** could have been **bound**, as Paul has been. However, even

when Paul is in jail and cannot preach the gospel in many places, **the word of God** cannot be restrained or contained in one place. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “the word of God cannot be restrained as a prisoner can be restrained by chains” or “nothing is holding back the message from God”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:9 (#4)

"the word of God has not been bound"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, you could use an indefinite subject. Alternate translation: “nothing has bound the word of God” or “nobody has bound the word of God”

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 2:9 (#5)

"the word of God"

Here, Paul is using the possessive form to describe a **word** that comes from God. Alternate translation: “the word that comes from God”

See: Possession

2 Timothy 2:9 (#6)

"the word"

Here, **word** represents the gospel, which people speak using words. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use an equivalent expression from your language or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “the gospel”

See: Metonymy

2 Timothy 2:10 (#1)

"Because of this, I endure all things"

The pronoun **this** could refer to: (1) what Paul said in the previous verse about how God’s word is not

bound. Alternate translation: “Because God’s word has not been bound, I endure all things” (2) what Paul is about to say about **the elect** and their **salvation**. Alternate translation: “Here is why I endure all things:”

See: Pronouns — When to Use Them

2 Timothy 2:10 (#2)

"I endure all things"

Paul says **all** here as an overstatement to emphasize that he endures every bad thing that happens to him. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a different way to express the emphasis. Alternate translation: “I endure all of these sufferings” or “I endure many things”

See: Hyperbole

2 Timothy 2:10 (#3)

"the elect"

Paul is using the adjective **elect** as a noun to mean people whom God has chosen. Your language may use adjectives in the same way. If not, you could translate this word with an equivalent phrase. Alternate translation: “the elect people” or “those who have been chosen”

See: Nominal Adjectives

2 Timothy 2:10 (#4)

"they also may obtain salvation {that is} in Christ Jesus"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **salvation**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: “they also may be saved, which happens in Christ Jesus”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:10 (#5)

"that is} in Christ Jesus"

Here Paul uses the spatial metaphor **in Christ Jesus** to describe the union of believers with **Christ Jesus**. In this case, being **in Christ Jesus**, or united to **Christ Jesus**, is the only way in which believers

obtain salvation. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a phrase that indicates that believers **obtain salvation** as part of their union with **Christ Jesus**. Alternate translation: “that is received in union with Christ Jesus” or “that they have because they are united to Christ Jesus”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:10 (#6)

"with eternal glory"

Here, the phrase **with eternal glory** could refer to **glory**: (1) that goes along with salvation. Alternate translation: “along with eternal glory” (2) that characterizes salvation. Alternate translation: “salvation that has eternal glory”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:10 (#7)

"with eternal glory"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **glory**, you could express the same idea in another way. Be sure that your translation fits with the option you chose in the previous note. Alternate translation: “and they will live gloriously forever” or “along with being eternally great”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:11 (#1)

"The word {is} trustworthy"

Here, **word** represents what Paul is about to write using words. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use an equivalent expression from your language or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “What I am about to write is trustworthy” or “The following words are trustworthy”

See: Metonymy

2 Timothy 2:11 (#1)

"For"

Here, the word **For** could: (1) be part of the **word** that Paul quotes here. In this case, **For** does not

connect directly with anything that Paul has previously said. Alternate translation: “In fact,” (2) introduce the **word** as the reason for what Paul has said in the previous verses about remembering Jesus and enduring in suffering. Alternate translation: “We should endure because” or “Remember Christ Jesus because”

See: Connecting Words and Phrases

2 Timothy 2:11 (#2)

"if we died with {him}"

Paul speaks as if this were a hypothetical situation, but he means that this does certainly happen. If your language does not state something as a condition if it does happen, and if your readers might think that what Paul is saying is uncertain, then you could translate his words as an affirmative statement. Alternate translation: “when we died with him”

See: Connect — Factual Conditions

2 Timothy 2:11 (#3)

"we died with {him}"

Here Paul refers to how believers, in their union with Christ, share in Christ's death. In this way, they too have died. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “we died, as it were, with him” or “we participated in the Messiah's death”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:11 (#4)

"we will also live with {him}"

Here Paul refers to the new life that believers receive in their union with Christ. This new life can be experienced now, but Paul seems especially to be speaking about the eternal life that believers will have after Jesus comes back. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: “we will also experience new life with him” or “we will also have eternal life with him”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:11-13 (#1)

""For if we died with {him}, we will also live with {him}" - "If we endure, we will also reign with {him}."

These words are the **word** that Paul shares with Timothy. To indicate this, the ULT and UST put quotation marks around these words. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use quotation marks or another form to indicate which words are the ones that Paul introduces as the word.

See: Quote Markings

2 Timothy 2:12 (#1)

"we endure"

Here Paul implies that believers must **endure** suffering and persecution. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "we endure suffering" or "we endure persecution"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:12 (#2)

"we deny {him}"

Here Paul refers to people denying that they know and believe in Jesus. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "we deny that we believe in him"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:12 (#3)

"he also will deny us"

Here Paul implies that at the final judgment Jesus **will deny** that these people know him and believe in him. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "he also will deny that we believe in him" or "he also will deny at the final judgment that we are his followers"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:13 (#1)

"we are unfaithful"

Here, the word **unfaithful** could refer to: (1) failing to be loyal to Jesus and disobeying him. Alternate translation: "we disobey Jesus" or "we are disloyal to Jesus" (2) failing to believe in Jesus. Alternate translation: "we stop believing in Jesus" or "if we no longer trust Jesus"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:13 (#2)

"he remains faithful"

Here, the word **faithful** could indicate that: (1) Jesus remains loyal to these people. In other words, he still does what he said he would, even if they do not. Alternate translation: "he continues to do what he said he would" or "he remains true to them" (2) Jesus consistently acts based on who he is. In this case, Jesus will be **faithful** to his promise to deny those who deny him. Alternate translation: "he remains consistent and will deny them" or "he is true to himself and will judge them"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:13 (#3)

"he is not able to deny himself"

Here, the phrase **deny himself** refers to a person choosing not to do what they would naturally do. Here, then, Paul means that Jesus is able to do only what he would naturally do. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable phrase or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "he is not able to stop doing what he does" or "he will always do what fits with who he is"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:14 (#1)

"Remind {them} of"

Here Paul implies that Timothy should **Remind** the believers who are with him and over whom he has responsibility. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit.

Alternate translation: "Remind the believers there of"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:14 (#2)

"these things"

Here, the phrase **these things** refer to what Paul has previously written. This includes the trustworthy word in [2:11-13](#) and perhaps also [2:1-10](#). If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "what I have written" or "the things I have just said"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:14 (#3)

"adjuring {them} before God"

Here Paul wants Timothy to put the believers under oath, making them swear by **God**, that they will do what Timothy tells them to do. Use a natural way in your language to express an oath. Alternate translation: "making them swear before God" or "requiring that they solemnly promise God"

See: Oath Formulas

2 Timothy 2:14 (#4)

"God"

Many ancient manuscripts read **God**. The ULT follows that reading. Other ancient manuscripts read "the Lord." If a translation of the Bible exists in your region, you may wish to use the reading that it uses. If a translation of the Bible does not exist in your region, you may wish to use the reading of the ULT.

See: Textual Variants

2 Timothy 2:14 (#5)

"not to battle about words"

Here Paul refers to arguments about what **words** mean as if they were battles. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable

figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "not to dispute about words"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:14 (#6)

"to the destruction of the ones hearing"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **destruction**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "and it destroys the ones hearing"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:14 (#7)

"to the destruction of the ones hearing"

Here Paul implies that battling about words damages the faith **of the ones hearing** and stops their spiritual growth. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "to the destruction of the faith of the ones hearing" or "to the ruin of the spiritual growth of the ones hearing"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:15 (#1)

"Strive to present yourself approved to God"

Here Paul means that Timothy should **Strive** to be the kind of person who is **approved by God**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "Work hard so that God approves of you" or "Do your best to please God"

See: Idiom

2 Timothy 2:15 (#2)

"a worker"

Here Paul speaks as if Timothy were a skilled **worker**. He means that Timothy works for God as a teacher and leader. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "like a craftsman" or "someone who works for God and is"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:15 (#3)

"not ashamed"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say what would do the action, it is clear from the context that it would be his work. Alternate translation: "without shame" or "whose work does not shame him"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 2:15 (#4)

"cutting the word of truth straight"

Paul refers to **the word of truth** as if it were wood or cloth that Timothy should cut **straight**. He means that Timothy should understand and teach **the word of truth** carefully and properly. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "teaching the word of truth rightly as if it were a piece of cloth that you were cutting straight" or "instructing others properly in the word of truth"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:15 (#5)

"the word of truth"

Here, Paul is using the possessive form to describe a **word** that could be: (1) true. Alternate translation: "the word that is true" (2) that is about something that is true. Alternate translation: "the word about what is true"

See: Possession

2 Timothy 2:15 (#6)

"the word of truth"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **truth**, you could express the same idea in another way. Be sure that your translation fits

with the option you chose in the previous note. Alternate translation: "the true word"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:15 (#7)

"the word"

Here, **word** represents the gospel, which people speak using words. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use an equivalent expression from your language or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "the gospel"

See: Metonymy

2 Timothy 2:16 (#1)

"But"

Here, the word **But** introduces how Timothy should treat **profane empty sayings** in contrast with how he should treat "the word of truth" (2:15). If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces this kind of contrast, or you could leave **But** untranslated. Alternate translation: "In contrast,"

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

2 Timothy 2:16 (#2)

"profane, empty sayings"

Here Paul implies that the **sayings** are **empty** of useful or true information. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "the profane sayings that have no meaning"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:16 (#3)

"they will advance"

The pronoun **they** could refer to: (1) the people who speak and listen to the **profane empty sayings**. When Paul refers to "their word" in 2:17, he seems to be speaking about these people. Alternate translation: "the people who indulge in them will advance" or "those who speak and listen to them will advance" (2) the **profane empty**

sayings themselves. In this case, Paul means that the **sayings** become more and more ungodly as people use them. Alternate translation: “these sayings will advance”

See: Pronouns — When to Use Them

2 Timothy 2:16 (#4)

“they will advance further in ungodliness”

Here Paul speaks of people who speak the **profane empty sayings** as if they could physically **advance further** or progress in a certain direction, and he speaks of **ungodliness** as that direction. He means that these people become more and more ungodly as they speak these **sayings**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “they have even more ungodliness” or “they will be characterized by even more ungodliness”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:16 (#5)

“in ungodliness”

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **ungodliness**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: “in being ungodly”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:17 (#1)

“their word”

Here, **word** represents what people say using words. In this case, Paul is referring specifically to the “profane empty sayings” to which he referred in [2:16](#). If it would be helpful in your language, you could use an equivalent expression from your language or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “their sayings” or “their message”

See: Metonymy

2 Timothy 2:17 (#2)

“will have a spreading like gangrene”

Paul is saying that profane empty sayings will spread **like gangrene** because both these sayings and **gangrene** spread quickly and are dangerous. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state that explicitly. Alternate translation: “will spread quickly and destroy things, just as gangrene does”

See: Simile

2 Timothy 2:17 (#3)

“gangrene”

The word **gangrene** refers to a type of tissue death caused by infection or lack of blood circulation. The type of **gangrene** that Paul is referring to can spread quickly through a person’s body and can lead to death. If your readers would not be familiar with this type of infection, you could use the name of something similar in your area or you could use a more general term. Alternate translation: “a contagious infection” or “a deadly disease”

See: Translate Unknowns

2 Timothy 2:17 (#4)

“Hymenaeus and Philetus”

The words **Hymenaeus** and **Philetus** are names of men.

See: How to Translate Names

2 Timothy 2:18 (#1)

“have missed the mark concerning the truth”

Paul speaks as if **the truth** were a mark or target that these two men have **missed**. Paul means that these men have failed to maintain **the truth**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “have not remained in the truth” or “have ceased to have the truth”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:18 (#2)

“concerning the truth”

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **truth**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: “concerning what is true”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:18 (#3)

"the resurrection has already happened"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **resurrection**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: “that people have already resurrected”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:18 (#4)

"who} overturn the faith of some"

Here Paul speaks of **faith** as if it were an object that these two men could **overturn**. He means that they are disrupting or destroying people's faith in Jesus. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “who tear down the faith of some” or “who cause some to lose their faith”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:18 (#5)

"the faith of some"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **faith**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: “how some believed” or “some who used to believe”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:19 (#1)

"the firm foundation of God stands"

Here Paul speaks of a **firm foundation** that **stands** to indicate that something that **God** has established is secure and will remain. Paul could be referring to: (1) God's people, the church. In this case, God has established his people as a **firm foundation**, and no false teaching can make them stop

believing. Alternate translation: “the church of God stands like a firm foundation” (2) the gospel. In this case, God has established the gospel as a **firm foundation**, and no false teaching can corrupt it. Alternate translation: “the gospel of God stands like a firm foundation”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:19 (#2)

"having this seal"

Here Paul speaks as if the **foundation** had a **seal** on it. He means that God has made official statements about the **foundation**. These official statements guarantee that the **foundation** is valid and belongs to God. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “having these official statements from God which are like a seal” or “about which God has officially said”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:19 (#3)

"The Lord knew the ones being his" and "Let everyone naming the name of the Lord depart from unrighteousness"

Here Paul introduces a quotation and a summary that both come from the Old Testament scriptures. The first quotation is from [16:5](#). Paul quotes these words from an ancient translation into Timothy's language. The second quotation is a summary of many verses in the Old Testament. If it would be helpful to your readers, you could format these words as quotations, as the ULT and UST do, and you could include information about the quotations in a footnote.

See: Quotations and Quote Margins

2 Timothy 2:19 (#4)

"The Lord" - "of the Lord"

Here, the word **Lord** could refer to: (1) Jesus specifically. Alternate translation: “Jesus the Lord ... of Jesus the Lord” (2) God generally. Alternate translation: “The Lord God ... of the Lord God”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

See: Idiom

2 Timothy 2:19 (#5)

"knew"

Here the author of the quotation uses the past tense to refer to something that is always true. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use whatever tense is natural for stating a general truth. Alternate translation: "has known"

See: Irregular Use of Tenses

2 Timothy 2:19 (#6)

"Let everyone naming the name of the Lord depart from"

Here Paul speaks of **unrighteousness** if it were a location from which people should **depart**. He means that these people should stop doing what is unrighteous. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "Let everyone naming the name of the Lord avoid" or "Let everyone naming the name of the Lord reject"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:19 (#7)

"Let everyone naming the name of the Lord depart"

If your language does not use the third-person imperative in this way, you could state this in another way that is natural in your language. Alternate translation: "Everyone naming the name of the Lord should depart"

See: Third-Person Imperatives

2 Timothy 2:19 (#8)

"naming the name of the Lord"

Here, the phrase **naming the name of the Lord** refers to claiming that one serves and believes in **the Lord**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable phrase or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "who claims to follow the Lord" or "who claims to believe in the Lord"

2 Timothy 2:19 (#9)

"from unrighteousness"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **unrighteousness**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "from acting unrighteously"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:20 (#1)

"Now"

Here, the word **Now** introduces the next thing that Paul wants to write about. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces the next topic, or you could leave **Now** untranslated. Alternate translation: "Further,"

See: Connecting Words and Phrases

2 Timothy 2:20 (#2)

"in a great house, there are not only gold and silver containers, but also wood and clay, and some for honor and some for dishonor"

To teach Timothy, Paul speaks of the church as if it were a **great house** that contained **containers**, which represent people who are part of the church. This is an important figure of speech that Paul continues in the next verse, so you should preserve it. If it would be helpful to your readers, you could use a form that introduces an illustration or example. Alternate translation: "here is an illustration: in a great house, there are not only gold and silver containers, but also wood and clay, and some for honor and some for dishonor"

See: Biblical Imagery — Extended Metaphors

2 Timothy 2:20 (#3)

"containers"

The word translated as **container** is a general term for items that people use when they are performing household duties. These items include bowls and pots but also tools such as knives and shovels. If it

would be helpful in your language, you could use a general word that refers to this kind of item, or you could list several examples. Alternate translation: “bowls, knives, and similar items”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:20 (#4)

"but also wood and clay"

Paul is leaving out some of the words that in many languages a sentence would need in order to be complete. You could supply these words from earlier in the sentence if it would be clearer in your language. Alternate translation: “but there are also wood and clay containers”

See: Ellipsis

2 Timothy 2:20 (#5)

"some for honor and some for dishonor"

Paul is leaving out some of the words that in many languages a sentence would need in order to be complete. You could supply these words from the context if it would be clearer in your language. Alternate translation: “some are made for honor and some are made for dishonor”

See: Ellipsis

2 Timothy 2:20 (#6)

"some for honor and some for dishonor"

If your language does not use abstract nouns for the ideas of **honor** and **dishonor**, you could express the same ideas in another way. Alternate translation: “some for being used in honorable ways and some for being used in dishonorable ways”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:21 (#1)

"if someone has cleansed himself from these, he will be a container for honor, having been sanctified, useful to the master, having been prepared for every good work"

Here Paul continues to speak of believers as if they were each a **container**. In this verse, Paul gives some explanation of this figure of speech. When people cleanse themselves, they become like clean containers that can be used in honorable ways and that are useful to the **master** of the house, who represents God. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form to explain the figure of speech. Alternate translation: “if someone has cleansed himself from these, he will be like a container for honor. Like such a container, he will be sanctified and useful to God, who is like the master of the house. He will be prepared for every good work”

See: Biblical Imagery — Extended Metaphors

2 Timothy 2:21 (#2)

"these"

Here, the word **these** could refer to: (1) what Paul has said in [2:16–18](#) about what the false teachers do and say. The particular focus, then, is on ungodliness and false teaching. Alternate translation: “from ungodliness and false teaching” or “these ungodly things” (2) the vessels for dishonor that Paul mentioned in [2:20](#). In this case, the focus could be on the vessels or the dishonor. Alternate translation: “these vessels for dishonor” or “that dishonor”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:21 (#3)

"himself" - "he will be"

Although the terms **himself** and **he** are masculine, Paul is using the words in a generic sense that includes both men and women. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a phrase that makes this clear. Alternate translation: “himself or herself ... he or she will be”

See: When Masculine Words Include Women

2 Timothy 2:21 (#4)

"for honor"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **honor**, you could express the same idea

in another way. Alternate translation: “that is used in honorable ways”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:21 (#5)

"having been sanctified"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, it is clear from the context that it was God. Alternate translation: “having become holy” or “one that God has sanctified”

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 2:21 (#6)

"having been prepared"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, it is clear from the context that it was God. Alternate translation: “being ready” or “one that God has prepared”

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 2:22 (#1)

"But"

Here, the word **But** introduces the next thing that Paul wants to write about. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces the next idea, or you could leave **But** untranslated. Alternate translation: “Now”

See: Connecting Words and Phrases

2 Timothy 2:22 (#2)

"flee"

Paul speaks of **youthful lusts** as if they were things a person could physically run away from. He means that Timothy should always avoid these **lusts**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “make sure that you do not have”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:22 (#3)

"youthful lusts"

Here Paul is referring to **lusts** that generally characterize **youthful** people. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: “the lusts that youthful people often have”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:22 (#4)

"pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with the ones calling on the Lord from a pure heart"

Here, the phrase **with the ones calling on the Lord from a pure heart** could modify: (1) **pursue**. In this case, Timothy is supposed to **pursue** these good qualities along with the people who are **calling on the Lord from a pure heart**. Alternate translation: “pursue, with the ones calling on the Lord from a pure heart, righteousness, faith, love, peace” (2) **peace**. In this case, the people with whom Timothy should have peace are those **calling on the Lord from a pure heart**. Alternate translation: “pursue righteousness, faith, and love, and pursue peace with the ones calling on the Lord from a pure heart”

2 Timothy 2:22 (#5)

"pursue"

Paul speaks of **righteousness** and other good qualities as if they were things that a person could run after and catch. He means that Timothy should try very hard to be characterized by these good things. Alternate translation: “seek to acquire” or “work hard to be characterized by”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:22 (#6)

"righteousness, faith, love, peace"

If your language does not use abstract nouns for some or all of the ideas in this list, you could express the same ideas in another way. Alternate

translation: "becoming more righteous, believing, loving, peaceful"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:22 (#7)

"faith"

Here, the word **faith** could refer to: (1) belief in Jesus. Alternate translation: "faith in Jesus" (2) faithfulness in doing what God requires. Alternate translation: "faithfulness"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:22 (#8)

"the ones calling on the Lord"

The phrase **calling on the Lord** refers to worshiping and praying to **the Lord**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable phrase or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "the ones praying to the Lord"

See: Idiom

2 Timothy 2:22 (#9)

"the Lord from a pure heart"

Here, the phrase **from a clean heart** could be: (1) another description of these people. Alternate translation: "the Lord who have a pure heart" (2) a description of how they are **calling on the Lord**. Alternate translation: "the Lord, which they do with a pure heart"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:22 (#10)

"from a pure heart"

In Paul's culture, the **heart** is the place where humans think and feel. If it would be helpful in your language, you could translate **heart** by referring to the place where humans think and feel in your culture or by expressing the idea plainly. Alternate translation: "from a pure mind" or "from pure thoughts"

See: Metonymy

2 Timothy 2:23 (#1)

"But"

Here, the word **But** introduces how Timothy should treat **foolish and uneducated questions** in contrast to how he should "pursue" the good qualities that Paul listed in the previous verse. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces this kind of contrast, or you could leave **But** untranslated. Alternate translation: "In contrast,"

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

2 Timothy 2:23 (#2)

"foolish and uneducated controversies"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of controversies, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "debating about foolish and ignorant things"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:23 (#3)

"foolish and uneducated"

The terms **foolish** and **uneducated** mean similar things. Paul is using the two terms together for emphasis. If it would be clearer for your readers, you could express the emphasis with a single phrase. Alternate translation: "very foolish" or "completely uneducated"

See: Doublet

2 Timothy 2:23 (#4)

"they give birth to"

Here Paul speaks of the **controversies** as if they were women giving birth to children, the **battles**. He means that these **controversies** cause the **battles**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "they cause"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:23 (#5)**"battles"**

Here Paul speaks of strife and quarrels within a community as if they were **battles**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "quarrels that are like battles" or "strife"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:24 (#1)**"But"**

Here, the word **But** introduces how **a slave of the Lord** acts in contrast to how the "controversies" that Paul mentioned in the previous verse cause people to act. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces this kind of contrast, or you could leave **But** untranslated. Alternate translation: "In contrast,"

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

2 Timothy 2:24 (#2)**"for a slave of the Lord"**

The word **slave** represents any person who is a **slave of the Lord**, not one particular person. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in another way. Alternate translation: "each slave of the Lord"

See: Generic Noun Phrases

2 Timothy 2:24 (#3)**"for a slave of the Lord"**

Here Paul speaks of people who worship and obey **the Lord**, and especially leaders in the church, as if they were each **a slave of the Lord**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "those who worship and obey the Lord" or "people who do what the Lord commands"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:24 (#4)**"not to battle"**

Here Paul speaks of arguing and quarreling in a community as if it were battling. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. See how you expressed the similar figure of speech in [2:23](#). Alternate translation: "not to quarrel, which is like fighting in a battle" or "not to cause strife"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:24 (#5)**"all"**

Paul is using the adjective **all** as a noun to mean all people. Your language may use adjectives in the same way. If not, you could translate this word with an equivalent phrase. Alternate translation: "everyone"

See: Nominal Adjectives

2 Timothy 2:25 (#1)**"in meekness"**

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **meekness**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "meekly" or "in a meek way"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:25 (#2)**"the ones opposing"**

Here Paul could be implying that these people are **opposing**: (1) the "slave of the Lord" ([2:24](#)). Alternate translation: "the ones opposing him" (2) the gospel. Alternate translation: "the ones opposing the gospel"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:25 (#3)**"God may perhaps give them repentance"**

Here Paul speaks of **repentance** as if it were an object that God could give people. He means that God may enable these people to have **repentance**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "God may perhaps cause them to have repentance"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:25 (#4)

"may perhaps give them repentance for knowledge of the truth"

If your language does not use abstract nouns for the ideas of **repentance**, **knowledge**, and **truth**, you could express the same ideas in another way. Alternate translation: "may perhaps cause them to repent so that they can know the true teaching"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 2:26 (#1)

"they may become sober again from the trap of the devil, having been captured by him for the will of that one"

These people must have been **captured** by the devil before they can **become sober again from the trap of the devil**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could reverse the order of these clauses to express the ideas in sequential order. Alternate translation: "having in the past been captured by the devil for the will of that one, they may become sober again from the trap of the devil"

See: Order of Events

2 Timothy 2:26 (#2)

"they may become sober again from the trap of the devil"

Here Paul implies that being **sober again** also means escaping **from the trap of the devil**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "they may become sober again and escape from the trap of the devil"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 2:26 (#3)

"they may become sober again"

Here Paul speaks of being able to think clearly about what is true as if it were becoming **sober again**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "they may be able to reason properly again"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:26 (#4)

"from the trap of the devil, having been captured by him"

Here Paul speaks of how the devil has gained power or control over these people as if he had **captured** them in a **trap**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "from what is like a trap of the devil, in which they have been captured like animals by him" or "from the power of the devil, having been dominated by him"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 2:26 (#5)

"having been captured by him"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. Alternate translation: "he having captured them"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 2:26 (#6)

"by him for the will of that one"

Here Paul uses the pronoun **him** and the phrase **that one**. He could be: (1) using both terms to refer to the devil. Alternate translation: "the devil for the devil's own will" (2) be using the word **him** to refer to the devil and the phrase **that one** to refer to God. In this case, the phrase **for the will of that one** gives the result of these people becoming sober again. Alternate translation: "the devil, but now they can do the will of God"

See: Pronouns — When to Use Them

2 Timothy 2:26 (#7)

"for the will of that one"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **will**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "for what that one desires"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 3:1 (#1)

"But"

Here, the word **But** introduces the next thing that Paul wants to write about. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces the next idea, or you could leave **But** untranslated. Alternate translation: "Now"

See: Connecting Words and Phrases

2 Timothy 3:1 (#2)

"know this, that"

The expression **know this, that** contains extra information that would be unnatural to express in some languages. If this is true of your language, you could shorten the expression. Alternate translation: "know that"

See: Making Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information Explicit

2 Timothy 3:1 (#3)

"in the last days"

Here, the phrase **last days** refers to the period of time before Jesus comes back. Christians have different understandings about whether Paul believed that this time period had already begun or would begin sometime in the future. If possible, your translation should refer to this time period without indicating whether it had already begun. Alternate translation: "during the time before Jesus' second coming" or "in the final time period"

See: Idiom

2 Timothy 3:1 (#4)

"difficult times will be present"

Here Paul implies that the **times** will be **difficult** for believers because of what other people do and say that may harm or injure them (see 3:2–5). If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "believers will face difficult situations" or "believers will be in danger"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:2 (#1)

"For"

Here, the word **For** introduces a reason why the times will be difficult. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces a reason or basis for a claim, or you could leave **For** untranslated. Alternate translation: "That is because" or "Here is why:"

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

2 Timothy 3:2 (#2)

"the men"

The phrase **the men** represents people in general, not one particular set of **men**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in another way. Alternate translation: "men"

See: Generic Noun Phrases

2 Timothy 3:2 (#3)

"the men"

Although the term **men** is masculine, Paul is using the word in a generic sense that includes both men and women. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a phrase that makes this clear. Alternate translation: "the men and women"

See: When Masculine Words Include Women

2 Timothy 3:2 (#4)**"lovers of self"**

Here, the phrase **lovers of self** refers people who love themselves more than they love other people. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "lovers of themselves more than others" or "lovers of themselves most of all"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:3 (#1)**"not lovers of the good"**

Paul is using the adjective **good** as a noun to mean good things and actions. Your language may use adjectives in the same way. If not, you could translate this word with an equivalent phrase. Alternate translation: "not lovers of good things"

See: Nominal Adjectives

2 Timothy 3:4 (#1)**"puffed up"**

Here Paul speaks of proud people as if it they were **puffed up** by air. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "conceited"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 3:4 (#2)**"puffed up"**

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. Alternate translation: "proud" or "haughty"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 3:5 (#1)

"having a form of godliness, but denying its power"

If your language does not use abstract nouns for the ideas of **godliness** and **power**, you could express the same ideas in another way. Alternate translation: "seeming to be godly, but denying how powerful being godly really is"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 3:5 (#2)**"having a form of godliness"**

Here, the phrase **a form of godliness** refers to the appearance of **godliness**. In other words, these people appear to be acting in godly ways. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "seeming to have godliness" or "looking like people characterized by godliness"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:5 (#3)**"denying its power"**

Here Paul implies that these people refuse to experience and act upon the **power** that comes with real godliness. In other words, they do not actually do what is godly, and they do not allow God to change them so that they become more godly. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "refusing to experience its power" or "ignoring the work that it requires"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:5 (#4)**"And"**

Here, the word **And** introduces an inference based on what Paul has said about these people. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces an inference, or you could leave **And** untranslated. Alternate translation: "So"

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

2 Timothy 3:5 (#5)

"turn away from these"

Here Paul speaks of avoiding people as if it were turning **away from** them. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "turn your back on these" or "avoid these"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 3:5 (#6)

"these"

Paul is using the adjective **these** as a noun to mean the people he has been describing. Your language may use adjectives in the same way. If not, you could translate this word with an equivalent phrase. Alternate translation: "these people" or "the kind of people I have described"

See: Nominal Adjectives

2 Timothy 3:6 (#1)

"For"

Here, the word **For** introduces a reason why Timothy should "turn away from these" people (see [3:5](#)). If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces a reason or basis for a command, or you could leave **For** untranslated. Alternate translation: "Turn away from them because" or "I say that because"

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

2 Timothy 3:6 (#2)

"from these"

Paul is using the adjective **these** as a noun to mean the people he has described in the previous verses. Your language may use adjectives in the same way. If not, you could translate this word with an equivalent phrase. See how you translated the word "these" in [3:5](#). Alternate translation: "from these people" or "from the kind of people I have described"

See: Nominal Adjectives

2 Timothy 3:6 (#3)

"the ones entering into households"

Here Paul is referring to how these people visit other people's homes. The word translated **entering** implies that these people used false pretenses and deception to visit these homes. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "the ones using deceit to enter into households" or "the ones sneaking into other people's households"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:6 (#4)

"taking captive"

Here Paul speaks about how these people influence **little women** as if they were **taking** these women **captive**. He means that they gain control and power over these women. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "gaining influence over" or "manipulating"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 3:6 (#5)

"little women"

Here, Paul refers to the **women** who are deceived by the false teachers as if they were physically **little**. He could mean that: (1) these women are spiritually weak and immature. Alternate translation: "women who are spiritually weak" (2) gullible or easily deceived. Alternate translation: "gullible women" or "silly women"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 3:6 (#6)

"having been heaped with sins"

Paul speaks of these women's **sins** as if they were **heaped** on their backs. He could mean that: (1) these women sin often or even continually. Alternate translation: "who sin frequently" (2) these women feel terrible guilt because of their sins. Alternate translation: "who feel very guilty for their sins"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 3:6 (#7)

"having been heaped with sins"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, you could indicate that they themselves did. Alternate translation: "who carry many sins" "having heaped themselves with sins"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 3:6 (#8)

"being led away by various desires"

Paul speaks about these **various desires** as if they could physically lead the women away. He means that these women do whatever they desire without trying to control themselves. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "following various desires" or "always doing the various things that they desire"

See: Personification

2 Timothy 3:6 (#9)

"being led away by various desires"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. Alternate translation: "various desires leading them away"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 3:7 (#1)

"and"

Here, the word **and** introduces something that contrasts with how these women are **always learning**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces a contrast. Alternate translation: "yet"

See: Connecting Words and Phrases

2 Timothy 3:7 (#2)

"never being able to come to knowledge of the truth"

Here Paul speaks of the **knowledge of the truth** as if it were a destination at which people could arrive. He is indicating that these women cannot gain the **knowledge of the truth**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "never able to grasp knowledge of the truth" or "never able to gain knowledge of the truth"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 3:7 (#3)

"to knowledge of the truth"

If your language does not use abstract nouns for the ideas of **knowledge** and **truth**, you could express the same ideas in another way. Alternate translation: "to know the true teaching"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 3:8 (#1)

"Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses"

Here Paul refers to something that happened when God sent **Moses** to tell Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, to set the Israelites free. When Moses performed a miracle, some of the magicians and sorcerers who served Pharaoh also performed that miracle. In this way, they tried to prevent **Moses** from doing what God had told him to do. You can read this story in [Exodus 7:8-13](#). While the names of these magicians are not mentioned in the story in Exodus, their traditional names are **Jannes** and **Jambres**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make some of this information more explicit, or you could include a footnote that gives this information. Alternate translation: "Jannes and Jambres, who were two of Pharaoh's sorcerers, opposed Moses when he spoke to Pharaoh"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:8 (#2)**"Jannes and Jambres"**

The words **Jannes** and **Jambres** are names of men.

See: How to Translate Names

2 Timothy 3:8 (#3)**"these"**

Here, as in [3:5](#), Paul is using the adjective **these** as a noun to refer to the false teachers that he has described. Your language may use adjectives in the same way. If not, you could translate this word with an equivalent phrase. Alternate translation: "these people" or "the kind of people I have described"

See: Nominal Adjectives

2 Timothy 3:8 (#4)**"the truth"**

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **truth**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "the true teaching"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 3:8 (#5)**"men"**

Although the term **men** is masculine, Paul is using the word in a generic sense that includes both men and women. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a phrase that makes this clear. Alternate translation: "men and women"

See: When Masculine Words Include Women

2 Timothy 3:8 (#6)**"having been corrupted {in} the mind"**

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, it is clear from the context that it was they themselves. Alternate translation:

"whose mind is corrupt" or "who have corrupted their mind"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 3:8 (#7)**"in} the mind"**

If it would not be natural in your language to speak as if a group of people had only one **mind**, you could use the plural form of that word in your translation. Alternate translation: "in their minds"

See: Collective Nouns

2 Timothy 3:8 (#8)**"unapproved concerning the faith"**

Here Paul implies that, when God tests the **faith** of these people, he will not approve of it. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "whose faith is not approved by God"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:8 (#9)**"concerning the faith"**

Here, the word **faith** could refer to: (1) the act of having **faith** in Jesus. Alternate translation: "concerning the faith that they claim to have" (2) what people believe about Jesus when they have **faith** in him. Alternate translation: "concerning what Christians believe"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:8 (#10)**"concerning the faith"**

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **faith**, you could express the same idea in another way. Make sure that your translation fits with the option you chose in the previous note. Alternate translation: "in how they claim to believe in Jesus"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 3:9 (#1)**"But"**

Here, the word **But** introduces what will happen to these false teachers in contrast to what they are trying to do, which is to oppose the truth (see [3:8](#)). If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a different word or phrase that introduces this kind of contrast. Alternate translation: "Despite that," or "Although they try to oppose the truth"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:9 (#2)**"they will not advance further"**

Here Paul speaks of people having success in teaching as if they were advancing **further** in a direction. He means that these people will cease to have success in teaching. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "they will not be able to teach even more people" or "they will not succeed in continuing to teach"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 3:9 (#3)**"their foolishness"**

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **foolishness**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "how foolish they are"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 3:9 (#4)**"to all"**

Paul is using the adjective **all** as a noun to mean all people. Your language may use adjectives in the same way. If not, you could translate this word with an equivalent phrase. Alternate translation: "to all people"

See: Nominal Adjectives

2 Timothy 3:9 (#5)**"to all"**

Paul says **all** here as an overstatement for emphasis. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a different way to express the emphasis. Alternate translation: "to most"

See: Hyperbole

2 Timothy 3:9 (#6)**"that of those"**

Paul is using the adjective **that** as a noun to mean foolishness. He is using the adjective **those** to refer to Jannes and Jambres, Pharaoh's magicians. Your language may use adjectives in these same ways. If not, you could translate these words with equivalent phrases. Alternate translation: "the foolishness of Jannes and Jambres"

See: Nominal Adjectives

2 Timothy 3:9 (#7)**"became"**

Paul is leaving out some of the words that in many languages a sentence would need in order to be complete. You could supply these words from earlier in the sentence if it would be clearer in your language. Alternate translation: "became obvious"

See: Ellipsis

2 Timothy 3:9 (#8)**"became"**

Here Paul is referring to how Pharaoh's magicians failed to oppose Moses. They could not copy some of the miracles that Moses did (see [Exodus 8:18-19](#)), and they were affected by other miracles that Moses did (see [9:11](#)). In that way, everyone realized that they were foolish. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make some of that information more explicit or include the information in a footnote. Alternate translation: "became when they failed to stop Moses"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:10 (#1)**"But you"**

Here, the word **But** introduces how Timothy behaves in contrast to how the false teachers behave. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces this kind of contrast, or you could leave **But** untranslated. Alternate translation: "You, however," or "As for you, though, you"

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

2 Timothy 3:10 (#2)**"you have followed"**

Here Paul speaks as if Timothy **followed** the things that Paul has done and experienced. He means that Timothy has paid attention to these things and imitates how Paul does and experiences them. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "you have observed and emulated" or "you have modeled your behavior on"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 3:10–11 (#1)

"my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance" - "persecutions, sufferings, such as"

If your language does not use abstract nouns for some or all of the ideas in this list, you could express the same ideas in another way. Alternate translation: "what I teach, how I conduct myself, what I have chosen to do, how I have believed, how patient I am, how I love others, how I endure everything, how I am persecuted, and how I suffer. Things such as those"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 3:11 (#1)**"such as"**

Here, the phrase **such as** could refer back to: (1) just the **sufferings**. Alternate translation: "sufferings such as those that" (2) both the **sufferings** and the **persecutions**. Alternate

translation: "sufferings and persecutions such as those that"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:11 (#2)**"what kind of persecutions I endured"**

Here, the phrase **what kind of persecutions I endured** could be: (1) a further definition of what Paul experienced in the three cities to which he has referred. Alternate translation: "how I endured various persecutions" (2) an explanation that indicates how much Paul experienced. Alternate translation: "what persecutions I endured!" or "I endured so many persecutions!"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:11 (#3)**"what kind of persecutions I endured"**

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **persecutions**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "how I was persecuted and had to endure it"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 3:11 (#4)**"And"**

Here, the word **And** introduces what **the Lord** did in contrast to what Paul was experiencing. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces this kind of contrast. Alternate translation: "And yet" or "But"

See: Connecting Words and Phrases

2 Timothy 3:12 (#1)**"But also"**

Here, the phrase **But also** introduces the idea that what has been true for Paul will be true for all true believers. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces an expansion or further application of an idea. Alternate translation: "In fact," or "Beyond that,"

See: Connecting Words and Phrases

2 Timothy 3:12 (#2)

"all the ones wanting to live" - "in Christ Jesus will be persecuted"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, you could use an indefinite subject. Alternate translation: "people will persecute all the ones wanting to live godly in Christ Jesus"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 3:12 (#3)

"in Christ Jesus"

Here Paul uses the spatial metaphor **in Christ Jesus** to describe the union of believers with **Christ Jesus**. In this case, being **in Christ Jesus**, or united to **Christ Jesus**, is how believers **live piously**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a phrase that indicates that believers can **live** in this way because of their union with **Christ Jesus**. Alternate translation: "in union with Christ Jesus" or "as those who are united to Christ Jesus"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 3:13 (#1)

"But"

Here, the word **But** introduces what happens to **evil men and impostors** in contrast with what happens to people who want to live in godly ways. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces this kind of contrast, or you could leave **But** untranslated. Alternate translation: "However," or "In contrast,"

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

2 Timothy 3:13 (#2)

"men"

Although the term **men** is masculine, Jesus is using the word in a generic sense that includes both men

and women. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a phrase that makes this clear. Alternate translation: "men and women"

See: When Masculine Words Include Women

2 Timothy 3:13 (#3)

"evil men and impostors"

Here, the phrase **evil men and impostors** could: (1) refer to two different groups of people. Alternate translation: "men who are evil and men who are impostors" (2) describe one group of people using two terms connected with **and**. Alternate translation: "evil people who are impostors" or "evil impostors"

See: Hendiadys

2 Timothy 3:13 (#4)

"will advance to the worse"

Here Paul speaks of these people as if they could physically **advance** or progress in a certain direction, and he speaks of **the worse** as that direction. He means that these people become **worse** and **worse**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "will grow worse and worse" or "will be characterized by being increasingly worse"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 3:13 (#5)

"to the worse"

Paul is using the adjective **worse** as a noun to mean behavior and character that is worse. Your language may use adjectives in the same way. If not, you could translate this word with an equivalent phrase. Alternate translation: "to worse behavior" or "to worse character"

See: Nominal Adjectives

2 Timothy 3:13 (#6)

"leading astray and being led astray"

Here Paul speaks as if the **evil men and impostors** could literally lead people **astray** and be **led astray**. He means that they will deceive others and be deceived themselves. If it would be helpful for your readers, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “causing people to believe what is wrong and themselves believing what is wrong”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 3:13 (#7)

"being led astray"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, you could use an indefinite subject. Alternate translation: “others leading them astray”

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 3:14 (#1)

"But you"

Here, the word **But** introduces how Timothy should behave in contrast to how the false teachers behave. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces that kind of contrast. Alternate translation: “You, however” or “As for you, though”

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

2 Timothy 3:14 (#2)

"remain in what you learned and were convinced of, knowing from whom you learned"

If it would be more natural in your language, you could reverse the order of these clauses, since the second clause gives the reason for the result that the first clause describes. Alternate translation: “you know from whom you learned what you learned and were convinced of. So, remain in those things, knowing that truth”

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

2 Timothy 3:14 (#3)

"remain in"

Here Paul speaks as if what Timothy **learned** and was **convinced of** were place in which Timothy could **remain**. He means that Timothy should continue to believe and trust those things. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “continue to trust” or “maintain”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 3:14 (#4)

"were convinced of"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. Alternate translation: “were confident about”

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 3:14 (#5)

"knowing from whom you learned"

Here Paul implies that Timothy knows that these people are trustworthy. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: “knowing that the people from whom you learned are trustworthy”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:15 (#1)

"from infancy"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **childhood**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: “since you were an infant”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 3:15 (#2)

"for salvation through faith {that is} in Christ Jesus"

If your language does not use abstract nouns for the ideas of **salvation** and **faith**, you could express the same ideas in another way. Alternate translation: “so that you are saved through believing in Christ Jesus”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 3:15 (#3)

"that is} in Christ Jesus"

Here Paul uses the spatial metaphor **in Christ Jesus** to describe the union of believers with Christ. In this case, being **in Christ Jesus**, or united to **Christ Jesus**, explains how Timothy can have **faith**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a phrase that indicates that Timothy can have **faith** as one who has been united to **Christ Jesus**. Alternate translation: “that you have in your union with Christ Jesus” or “that comes from being united to Christ Jesus”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 3:16 (#1)

"All Scripture {is} God-breathed and {is} profitable"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. Alternate translation: “God has breathed out all Scripture, and it is profitable”

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 3:16 (#2)

"All Scripture {is} God-breathed and"

Here Paul speaks as if God had **breathed** all **Scripture**. He means that God is the one who spoke or gave **Scripture** through his Spirit. In other words, **All Scripture** has its origin in God. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “All Scripture comes from God, as if he had breathed it out, and it” or “All Scripture is produced by God and” or “All Scripture originates in God and”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 3:16 (#3)

"All Scripture"

Here, the phrase translated as **All Scripture** refers to what we call the Old Testament. Paul could be referring to: (1) the entirety of **Scripture**. Alternate translation: “The whole of Scripture” (2) each of the individual scriptures. Alternate translation: “Every scripture”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:16 (#4)

"is} profitable"

Here Paul could be implying that Scripture is **profitable**: (1) for someone to use in the following ways. Alternate translation: “is profitable for people to use for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness” (2) as it functions in the following ways for those who read or hear it. Alternate translation: “is profitable for our teaching, for our reproof, for our correction, for our training in righteousness”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 3:16 (#5)

"for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness"

If your language does not use abstract nouns for some or all of the ideas in this list, you could express the same ideas in another way. Alternate translation: “for instructing, for reproof, for correcting, for training to be righteous”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 3:17 (#1)

"so that"

Here, the phrase **so that** could introduce: (1) a result that comes from how Scripture is God-breathed and profitable in the ways that Paul has described. Alternate translation: “and so” (2) a purpose for which Scripture is God-breathed and profitable in the ways that Paul has described. Alternate translation: “in order that”

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

2 Timothy 3:17 (#2)

"the man of God"

Here, Paul is using the possessive form to describe a **man** who serves and obeys **God**. If this is not clear in your language, you could express the idea in another way. Alternate translations: "the man who obeys God" or "the man who worships God"

See: Possession

2 Timothy 3:17 (#3)

"the man of God"

The word **man** represents men in general, not one particular man. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in another way. Alternate translation: "men of God"

See: Generic Noun Phrases

2 Timothy 3:17 (#4)

"the man of God"

Although the term **man** is masculine, Paul is using the word in a generic sense that includes both men and women. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a phrase that makes this clear. Alternate translation: "the person of God"

See: When Masculine Words Include Women

2 Timothy 3:17 (#5)

"complete, having been equipped for every good work"

The terms **complete** and **equipped for every good work** mean similar things. Paul is using the two terms together for emphasis. If it would be clearer for your readers, you could express the emphasis with a single phrase. Alternate translation: "fully equipped for every good work" or "fully capable for every good work"

See: Doublet

2 Timothy 3:17 (#6)

"having been equipped"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, it is clear from the context that it was God. Alternate translation: "having everything he needs" or "one whom God has equipped"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 4:1 (#1)

"I adjure you before God and Christ Jesus, the one being about to judge living and dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom"

Here Paul puts Timothy under oath, making him swear by **God** and **Christ Jesus**, that he will do what Paul is about to write. Also, he wants Timothy to be as sure about doing what Paul is about to write as Timothy is sure about Jesus' **appearing** and **kingdom**. Use a natural way in your language to express this kind of oath. Alternate translation: "I make you swear before God and Christ Jesus, the one being about to judge living and dead, and as you think about his appearing and his kingdom" or "I require that you solemnly promise God and Christ Jesus, the one being about to judge living and dead, that you will do what I am about to write, and I want you to guarantee it as much as Jesus' appearing and kingdom are guaranteed"

See: Oath Formulas

2 Timothy 4:1 (#2)

"living and dead"

Paul is using the adjectives **living** and **dead** as nouns to mean people who are living and people who are dead. Your language may use adjectives in the same way. If not, you could translate this word with an equivalent phrase. Alternate translation: "those who are still alive and those who are dead"

See: Nominal Adjectives

2 Timothy 4:1 (#3)

"and by his appearing"

Many ancient manuscripts read **and by his appearing**. The ULT follows that reading. Other ancient manuscripts read “according to his appearing.” If a translation of the Bible exists in your region, you may wish to use the reading that it uses. If a translation of the Bible does not exist in your region, you may wish to use the reading of the ULT.

See: Textual Variants

2 Timothy 4:1 (#4)

"by his appearing"

Here, the phrase **his appearing** refers to when Jesus will come back to this world, which is when he will **judge** everyone. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: “by his second coming”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 4:2 (#1)

"the word"

Here, **word** represents the gospel, which people speak using words. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use an equivalent expression from your language or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “the gospel” or “God’s message”

See: Metonymy

2 Timothy 4:2 (#2)

"stand by"

Here Paul speaks as if Timothy should **stand by** something. He could mean that Timothy: (1) should be ready or prepared to preach the gospel. Alternate translation: “be prepared” (2) should be persistent in preaching the gospel. Alternate translation: “be persistent”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:2 (#3)

"opportune, inopportune"

Here Paul could be implying that it will be opportune sometimes and inopportune sometimes for: (1) Timothy’s audience. Alternate translation: “when people are ready to hear and when people are not ready to hear” or “when people are receptive and when they are not” (2) Timothy. Alternate translation: “when it is convenient for you and when it is not”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 4:2 (#4)

"with all patience and teaching"

Here, the words **patience** and **teaching** could: (1) describe two separate things. Alternate translation: “with all patience and with all teaching” (2) refer to one thing described with two words connected by **and**. Alternate translation: “with all patient teaching” or “with teaching that is very patient”

See: Hendiadys

2 Timothy 4:2 (#5)

"with all patience and teaching"

If your language does not use abstract nouns for the ideas of **patience** and **teaching**, you could express the same ideas in another way. Alternate translation: “and act very patiently and teach as you do so”

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 4:3 (#1)

"For"

Here, the word **For** introduces a basis for the commands that Paul gave in the previous verse. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces a basis for a command, or you could leave **For** untranslated. Alternate translation: “Here is why I command those things:” or “I urge you to do those things because”

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

2 Timothy 4:3 (#2)**"there will be a time when"**

Alternate translation: "the time will come when" or "here is what will eventually happen:"

2 Timothy 4:3 (#3)**"they will not bear with"**

The pronoun **they** refers to people in general with a special focus on people who claim to be believers. If this is not clear for your readers, you could refer to those people more directly. Alternate translation: "those who claim to be believers will not endure" or "some people will not endure"

See: Pronouns — When to Use Them

2 Timothy 4:3 (#4)**"they will not bear with"**

Here, the phrase **bear with** refers to listening to something charitably. Paul means that these people no longer be willing to listen to **the healthy teaching**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "they will not listen patiently to" or "they will not accept"

See: Idiom

2 Timothy 4:3 (#5)**"the healthy teaching"**

Here Paul speaks as if **teaching** could be **healthy**. He means that this **teaching** is good and reliable in every way and has no defect or corruption. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "the teaching that is like healthy food" or "the correct teaching"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:3 (#6)**"they will heap up for themselves teachers according to their own desires"**

Here, the phrase **according to their own desires** could modify: (1) the phrase **heap up for themselves**. Alternate translation: "according to their own desires they will heap up for themselves teachers" (2) the word **teachers**. Alternate translation: "they will heap up for themselves teachers who teach according to these people's own desires"

See: Information Structure

2 Timothy 4:3 (#7)**"they will heap up for themselves teachers"**

Paul speaks of how these people gather many **teachers** as if they were heaping these teachers up in a pile. Paul implies that these **teachers** teach many different things that are wrong. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "they will gather many different teachers" or "they will listen to many different false teachers"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:3 (#8)**"itching {in} the ear"**

Here Paul speaks as if these people had an **ear** that was **itching**, and the only way to scratch the itch was to hear what they wanted to hear. He means that these people want to hear things that make them feel good about themselves. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "wanting to hear what they like" or "desiring to be told things that make them feel good about themselves"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:3 (#9)**"in} the ear"**

If it would not be natural in your language to speak as if a group of people had only one **ear**, you could use the plural form of that word in your translation. Alternate translation: "in their ears"

See: Collective Nouns

2 Timothy 4:4 (#1)**"they will turn the ear away from the truth"**

Paul speaks about people no longer paying attention as if they were physically turning their ears away so that they could not hear. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable metaphor or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "they will no longer pay attention to the truth"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:4 (#2)**"the ear"**

If it would not be natural in your language to speak as if a group of people had only one **ear**, you could use the plural form of that word in your translation. Alternate translation: "their ears"

See: Collective Nouns

2 Timothy 4:4 (#3)**"the truth"**

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **truth**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "the true teaching"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 4:4 (#4)**"be turned away to"**

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, it is clear from the context that it was the teachers they gathered. Alternate translation: "their teachers will turn them away to"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 4:4 (#5)**"be turned away to"**

Here Paul speaks about people paying attention to **myths** as if someone were getting them to turn away in the wrong direction. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "be distracted by" or "start paying attention to"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:4 (#6)**"the myths"**

The word **myths** refers to a certain kind of story that is generally considered to be untrustworthy. This kind of story is often about what important people did a long time ago. Often, many people in a culture know these stories but do not consider them to be reliable historical narratives. If your readers would not be familiar with this type of story, you could use the name of something similar in your area or you could use a more general term. Alternate translation: "fictional narratives" or "traditional tales"

See: Translate Unknowns

2 Timothy 4:5 (#1)**"But you"**

Here, the word **But** introduces how Timothy should behave in contrast to how the people he has been describing behave. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces that kind of contrast. Alternate translation: "You, however" or "As for you, though"

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

2 Timothy 4:5 (#2)**"be sober"**

Here Paul speaks as if he wants Timothy to avoid getting drunk so that he is **sober**. While Paul did write that Christians should not get drunk (see [5:18](#)), here he primarily means that Timothy should control himself and be alert. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "stay alert" or "be self-controlled"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:5 (#3)

"in all things"

Alternate translation: "in every situation" or "in everything"

2 Timothy 4:5 (#4)

"Suffer hardship"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **hardship**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "When bad things are going to happen to you, be willing to experience them" or "Be willing to be hurt"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 4:5 (#5)

"the work of an evangelist"

Here, Paul is using the possessive form to describe **work** that an **evangelist** does. If this is not clear in your language, you could express the idea in another way. Alternate translation: "the work that an evangelist does"

See: Possession

2 Timothy 4:5 (#6)

"Fulfill your service"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **service**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "Serve in all the ways that you should" or "Serve in every way that is required of you"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 4:6 (#1)

"For"

Here, the word **For** introduces a reason why Timothy should do the things that Paul has commanded him to do in the previous verse. If it

would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces a reason or basis for a command, or you could leave **For** untranslated. Alternate translation: "I command those things because" or "Here is why I say those things:"

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

2 Timothy 4:6 (#2)

"I am already being poured out as an offering"

Here Paul describes himself as if he were the wine that people in his culture would pour on a sacrifice before they offered it to God. He means that he is experiencing the final days of his life, and both these days and his death will honor God. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "I am nearing the end of my life, which is like being poured out as an offering" or "I honor God as I experience the last days of my life"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:6 (#3)

"I am already being poured out as an offering"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, it is clear from the context that it was God. Alternate translation: "God is already pouring me out as an offering"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 4:6 (#4)

"of my departure"

Paul is referring to his death in a polite way by using the phrase **my departure**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a polite way of referring to this in your language, or you could state this plainly. Alternate translation: "when I will pass away" or "of my death"

See: Euphemism

2 Timothy 4:7 (#1)

"I have fought the good fight"

Here, Paul speaks about how he has persevered in believing in and obeying Jesus as if he had been a warrior fighting in a **good fight** or an athlete doing his best to win an event. He means that he has encountered opposition, pain, and problems, but he has persisted and persevered in believing in and obeying Jesus. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "I have lived as if I were fighting a good fight" or "I have persevered, no matter how hard it was"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:7 (#2)

"the good fight"

Here, the phrase **the good fight** could indicate: (1) that the **fight** is right or just. Alternate translation: "the just fight" or "the correct fight" (2) that someone is fighting well. Alternate translation: "the fight well"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 4:7 (#3)

"I have finished the race"

Here Paul speaks of how he has served God as if it were a **race** that he has now **finished**. He means that he has served God well, and now his time of service is about to end, since he will soon die. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "I have completed what God wanted me to do, just as a runner has finished the race" or "I have completed what I needed to do"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:7 (#4)

"I have kept the faith"

Here Paul speaks of **the faith** as if it were a valuable object that he has **kept** safe. He means that he has preserved and protected **the faith**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a

comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "I have guarded the faith" or "I have preserved the faith"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:7 (#5)

"I have kept the faith"

Here, the word **faith** could refer to: (1) the act of having **faith** in Jesus. Alternate translation: "I have kept the faith that I have" (2) what Christians believe about Jesus when they have **faith** in him. Alternate translation: "I have kept what Christians believe" (3) the act of being faithful. Alternate translation: "I have remained faithful"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 4:7 (#6)

"the faith"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **faith**, you could express the same idea in another way. Make sure that your translation fits with the option you chose in the previous note. Alternate translation: "the way that I believe in Jesus"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 4:8 (#1)

"From now on"

Here, the word translated as **From now on** could introduce: (1) something that is true from that moment and into the future. Alternate translation: "Now and in the future" or "Henceforth" (2) the last thing that Paul wants to say about how he has lived his life. Alternate translation: "Finally"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 4:8 (#2)

"the crown of righteousness is reserved"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, it is clear from the context

that it was God. Alternate translation: "God is reserving the crown of righteousness"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 4:8 (#3)

"the crown of righteousness"

Here, Paul is using the possessive form to describe a **crown** that could be: (1) the reward for his **righteousness**. Alternate translation: "the crown given to the righteous" or "the crown that is received because of righteousness" (2) **righteousness** itself. In this case, God rewards people by declaring them righteous. Alternate translation: "the crown that is righteousness"

See: Possession

2 Timothy 4:8 (#4)

"the crown of righteousness"

Here Paul describes the reward that he expects to receive as if it were **the crown** that athletes in his culture received when they won an event. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "what God will give me to honor me, which is like a crown of righteousness," or "what God will give me to honor me"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:8 (#5)

"on that day"

Here Paul is referring to the exact moment when Jesus will return to this world, which will also be the end of the current time period and the time when Jesus judges everyone. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. See how you expressed the similar phrase in [1:12](#). Alternate translation: "on that day when Jesus will return" or "at his second coming"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 4:8 (#6)

"and not only to me, but also to all the ones"

Paul is leaving out some of the words that in many languages a sentence would need in order to be complete. You could supply these words from earlier in the sentence if it would be clearer in your language. Alternate translation: "and he will not give it to me only, but he will also give it to all the ones"

See: Ellipsis

2 Timothy 4:8 (#7)

"to all the ones having loved his appearing"

Here, the phrase **having loved his appearing** indicates that these people care about, long for, and rejoice at **his appearing**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "to all the ones looking forward to his appearing" or "to all the ones who care about his appearing"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 4:8 (#8)

"his appearing"

Here, the phrase **his appearing** refers to when Jesus will come back to this world, which is when he will act as a **judge**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. See how you expressed this phrase in [4:1](#). Alternate translation: "his second coming" or "his return"

See: Metonymy

2 Timothy 4:9 (#1)

"Strive to come" - "quickly"

Alternate translation: "Come to me as soon as you can"

2 Timothy 4:9 (#2)

"to come"

In a context such as this, your language might say "go" instead of **come**. Alternate translation: "to go"

See: Go and Come

2 Timothy 4:10 (#1)

"for"

Here, the word **for** introduces a reason why Paul wants Timothy to come to him. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces a reason or basis for a command, or you could leave **for** untranslated. Alternate translation: "which I request because" or "since"

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

2 Timothy 4:10 (#2)

"Demas" - "Crescens"

The words **Demas** and **Crescens** are names of men.

See: How to Translate Names

2 Timothy 4:10 (#3)

"the present age"

Here, the phrase **the present age** refers to the time period in which Paul and Timothy lived, the time period before Jesus comes back and God transforms everything. Here Paul implies that **Demas** loves what he can have and experience during this time period. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable phrase or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "what he has in the current time period" or "things that exist during this time before Jesus returns"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 4:10 (#4)

"has gone"

In a context such as this, your language might say "come" instead of **gone**. Alternate translation: "has come"

See: Go and Come

2 Timothy 4:10 (#5)

"Crescens to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia"

Paul is leaving out some of the words that in many languages a sentence would need in order to be complete. You could supply these words from earlier in the sentence if it would be clearer in your language. Alternate translation: "and Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus has gone to Dalmatia"

See: Ellipsis

2 Timothy 4:10 (#6)

"Dalmatia"

The word **Dalmatia** is the name of a Roman province on the eastern coast of the Adriatic Sea. This area is now part of the countries Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

See: How to Translate Names

2 Timothy 4:11 (#1)

"useful to me for service"

Here Paul could be implying that Mark is **useful**: (1) in helping Paul minister to others, especially by preaching and teaching. Alternate translation: "useful to me in my ministry" (2) in helping Paul to take care of his personal needs. Alternate translation: "he is useful in taking care of my needs"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 4:11 (#2)

"for service"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **service**, you could express the same idea in another way. Be sure that your translation fits with the option you chose in the previous verse. Alternate translation: "for ministering to others" or "in serving people"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 4:12 (#1)

"But"

Here, the word **But** introduces the next thing that Paul wants to write about. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces the next idea, or you could leave **But** untranslated. Alternate translation: "Now"

See: Connecting Words and Phrases

2 Timothy 4:12 (#2)

"I sent"

Here Paul could be using the past tense to indicate: (1) that he **sent Tychicus** when he sent this letter to Timothy in **Ephesus**. It may be that Tychicus is the one who carried this letter to Timothy at Ephesus. In this case, Paul had not yet **sent Tychicus** when he wrote this sentence. Consider what tense would be natural in your language for this situation. Alternate translation: "I am about to send" or "I am sending" (2) that he **sent Tychicus to Ephesus** before he wrote this letter. Alternate translation: "I have sent"

See: Irregular Use of Tenses

2 Timothy 4:13 (#1)

"cloak"

The term **cloak** refers to a heavy garment that was worn over other clothes. If your readers would not be familiar with this type of garment, you could use the name of something similar in your area or you could use a more general term. Alternate translation: "coat"

See: Translate Unknowns

2 Timothy 4:13 (#2)

"Carpus"

The word **Carpus** is the name of a man.

See: How to Translate Names

2 Timothy 4:13 (#3)

"coming"

In a context such as this, your language might say "going" instead of **coming**. Alternate translation: "going"

See: Go and Come

2 Timothy 4:13 (#4)

"especially the parchments"

Here, the phrase **especially the parchments** could indicate: (1) that some of **the scrolls** are especially important to Paul. Alternate translation: "of which I especially want the parchments" (2) that **the scrolls** that Paul wants are **the parchments**. Alternate translation: "that is, the parchments"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 4:13 (#5)

"the parchments"

The word **parchments** refers to documents written on specially treated animal skins. If your readers would not be familiar with this type of writing material, you could use the name of something similar in your area or you could use a more general term. Alternate translation: "those made from animal skins" or "the ones written on leather"

See: Translate Unknowns

2 Timothy 4:14 (#1)

"Alexander the coppersmith"

A **coppersmith** is a person who makes things out of copper and other metals. If your readers would not be familiar with this type of worker, you could use the name of something similar in your area or you could use a more general term. Alternate translation: "Alexander the metalworker" or "Alexander, who works with metals,"

See: Translate Unknowns

2 Timothy 4:14 (#2)

"Alexander"

The word **Alexander** is the name of a man.

See: How to Translate Names

2 Timothy 4:14 (#3)**"showed many evils to me"**

Here Paul means that Alexander did many evil things to him. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "acted in many evil ways toward me" or "did many evil things to me"

See: Idiom

2 Timothy 4:14 (#4)**"The Lord will repay him"**

Here Paul speaks of how the **Lord** will punish Alexander as if the **Lord** were repaying Alexander for his **works**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "The Lord will judge him" or "The Lord will treat him"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:15 (#1)**"whom you also, guard yourself against, for he opposed our words very much"**

If it would be more natural in your language, you could reverse the order of these clauses, since the second clause gives the reason for the result that the first clause describes. Alternate translation: "whom, because he opposed our words very much, you also must guard yourself against"

See: Connect — Reason-and-Result Relationship

2 Timothy 4:15 (#2)**"our words"**

Here, **words** represents the message that Paul and the people with him proclaimed using **words**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use an equivalent expression from your language or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "our message" or 'what we teach'

See: Metonymy

2 Timothy 4:16 (#1)**"At my first defense"**

Here, the phrase **first defense** refers to the first time that Paul was in court and had to defend himself against accusations. Paul implies that he already had appeared in court again or that he would have to do so again in the future. If your readers would not be familiar with this type of legal proceeding, you could use the name of something similar in your area or you could use a more general term. Alternate translation: "At the opening session of my trial" or "When I first appeared in court to answer the accusations against me"

See: Translate Unknowns

2 Timothy 4:16 (#2)**"no one appeared with me"**

Here Paul means that **no one** went with Paul to the court to help him defend himself. They might have been able to help Paul by testifying that he had not done anything wrong, or they might have just sat in the court to show that they approved of Paul. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "no one went with me to testify on my behalf" or "no one was there to help me"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 4:16 (#3)**"all"**

Paul is using the adjective **all** as a noun to mean all the believers who were there with Paul. Your language may use adjectives in the same way. If not, you could translate this word with an equivalent phrase. Alternate translation: "all the believers here"

See: Nominal Adjectives

2 Timothy 4:16 (#4)**"May it not be reckoned against them"**

Here Paul means that he does not want his fellow believers to be punished for not appearing with him in court. He uses this form as a way to ask God

to forgive them for forsaking him. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: "May they not be punished for that" or "May they not be held responsible for that"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 4:16 (#5)

"May it not be reckoned against them"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who would do the action, it is clear from the context that it would be God. Alternate translation: "May God not count it against them"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 4:17 (#1)

"But"

Here, the word **But** introduces what **the Lord** did in contrast to what the rest of the believers did (see [4:16](#)). If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a word or phrase that introduces this kind of contrast, or you could leave **But** untranslated. Alternate translation: "In contrast,"

See: Connect — Contrast Relationship

2 Timothy 4:17 (#2)

"the Lord stood with me"

Here Paul speaks as if **the Lord** had physically **stood** with him. He means that **the Lord** supported and helped him. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable figure of speech or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "the Lord was with me" or "the Lord helped me"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:17 (#3)

"through me the proclamation might be fulfilled"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. Alternate translation: "I might fulfill the proclamation"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 4:17 (#4)

"through me the proclamation might be fulfilled"

Here, Paul may mean that **the proclamation** was **fulfilled**: (1) because he was able to proclaim the good news in every place and way that God required of him. Alternate translation: "I might accomplish my task of proclamation" or "I might complete the proclamation that I was called to perform" (2) because he proclaimed the entire gospel message. Alternate translation: "I could proclaim the full message" or "through me the complete proclamation might be made"

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 4:17 (#5)

"the proclamation might be fulfilled"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **proclamation**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "the gospel might be fully proclaimed"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 4:17 (#6)

"all the Gentiles"

Paul says **all** here as an overstatement for emphasis. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a different way to express the emphasis. Alternate translation: "very many Gentiles"

See: Hyperbole

2 Timothy 4:17 (#7)

"I was rescued out of the mouth of the lion"

Here Paul speaks as if he was about to be eaten by a **lion** when he was **rescued out of the mouth of**

that lion. He means that he was protected from terrible danger, which was most likely the danger of being executed. If it would be helpful in your language, you could express the idea in simile form or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "I was rescued from danger, as if I had been in the mouth of a lion" or "I was rescued from being executed"

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:17 (#8)

"I was rescued"

If your language does not use this passive form, you could express the idea in active form or in another way that is natural in your language. If you need to say who did the action, it is clear from the context that it was God. Alternate translation: "God rescued me"

See: Active or Passive

2 Timothy 4:18 (#1)

"To him {be} the glory"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **glory**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "May people glorify him"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 4:18 (#2)

"forever {and} ever"

Here, the phrase **forever {and} ever** identifies an action that will never end, and it strongly emphasizes that it will never end. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a comparable phrase that emphasizes that an action will never end. Alternate translation: "without ever ceasing" or "from now on and always"

See: Idiom

2 Timothy 4:19 (#1)

"Greet"

As was customary in his culture, near the end of his letter, Paul asks Timothy to extend greetings for him to other people that both he and the Timothy know. Your language may have a particular way of sharing greetings in a letter. If so, you could use that form here. Alternate translation: "Remember me to" or "Give my regards to"

2 Timothy 4:19 (#2)

"of Onesiphorus"

Onesiphorus is the name of a man. See how you translated this name in [1:16](#).

See: How to Translate Names

2 Timothy 4:20 (#1)

"Erastus" - "Trophimus"

The words **Erastus** and **Trophimus** are the names of men.

See: How to Translate Names

2 Timothy 4:20 (#2)

"Miletus"

The name **Miletus** is the name of a city on the western coast of what is now Turkey, south of Ephesus.

See: How to Translate Names

2 Timothy 4:21 (#1)

"Strive to come"

Alternate translation: "Do your best to come"

2 Timothy 4:21 (#2)

"before winter"

Where Paul and Timothy lived, **winter** is the time of year when it is cold and travel is difficult. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use a term for a season in which it would be difficult to travel, or you could translate winter with a general

expression. Alternate translation: “before the rainy season” or “before the cold season”

See: Translate Unknowns

2 Timothy 4:21 (#3)

"Eubulus greets you, and Pudens and Linus and Claudia and the brothers"

As was customary in his culture, near the end of his letter, Paul extends greetings from people who are with him and who know the person to whom he is writing, Timothy. Your language may have a particular way of sharing greetings in a letter. If so, you could use that form here. Alternate translation: “Eubulus asks to be remembered to you, and Pudens and Linus and Claudia and the brothers” or “Eubulus and Pudens and Linus and Claudia and the brothers send their regards”

2 Timothy 4:21 (#4)

"Eubulus greets you, and Pudens and Linus and Claudia and the brothers"

Paul is leaving out some of the words that in many languages a sentence would need in order to be complete. You could supply these words from earlier in the sentence if it would be clearer in your language. Alternate translation: “Eubulus greets you, and so do Pudens and Linus and Claudia and the brothers”

See: Ellipsis

2 Timothy 4:21 (#5)

"Eubulus" - "Pudens" - "Linus"

The words **Eubulus**, **Pudens**, and **Linus** are the names of three men.

See: How to Translate Names

2 Timothy 4:21 (#6)

"Claudia"

The word **Claudia** is the name of a woman.

See: How to Translate Names

2 Timothy 4:21 (#7)

"the brothers"

Here Paul refers to **the brothers** to include all the other believers who wanted to greet Timothy. Paul does not mean that **Eubulus**, **Pudens**, **Linus**, and **Claudia** are not **brothers**. If it would be helpful in your language, you could make that idea more explicit. Alternate translation: “the other brothers”

See: Assumed Knowledge and Implicit Information

2 Timothy 4:21 (#8)

"the brothers"

Paul is using the term **brothers** to mean people who share the same faith. If it would be helpful in your language, you could state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: “the believers”

See: Metaphor

2 Timothy 4:21 (#9)

"the brothers"

Although the term **brothers** is masculine, Paul is using the word in a generic sense that includes both men and women. If you retain the metaphor in your translation, and if it would be helpful in your language, you could say “brothers and sisters” to indicate this.

See: When Masculine Words Include Women

2 Timothy 4:22 (#1)

"The Lord be} with your spirit"

As was customary in his culture, Paul closes his letter with a blessing for Timothy. Use a form that people would recognize as a blessing in your language. Alternate translation: “May the Lord be with your spirit” or “I pray that the Lord will be with your spirit”

See: Blessings

2 Timothy 4:22 (#2)

"The Lord"

Many ancient manuscripts read **The Lord**. The ULT follows that reading. Other ancient manuscripts read "The Lord Jesus Christ." If a translation of the Bible exists in your region, you may wish to use the reading that it uses. If a translation of the Bible does not exist in your region, you may wish to use the reading of the ULT.

See: Textual Variants

2 Timothy 4:22 (#3)

"be} with your spirit"

Paul is using **spirit** to represent Timothy as a whole person. He may use this figure of speech to indicate that the **Lord** will be with Timothy in a spiritual way, not a physical way. If it would be helpful in your language, you could use an equivalent expression from your culture or state the meaning plainly. Alternate translation: "be with you spiritually"

See: Synecdoche

2 Timothy 4:22 (#4)

"Grace {be} with you"

As was customary in his culture, Paul closes his letter with a blessing for Timothy and the believers with him. He implies that the **Grace** is from God. Use a form that people would recognize as a blessing in your language. Alternate translation: "May you experience kindness from God within you" or "I pray that you will have grace from God"

See: Blessings

2 Timothy 4:22 (#5)

"Grace {be} with you"

If your language does not use an abstract noun for the idea of **grace**, you could express the same idea in another way. Alternate translation: "May God act graciously toward you"

See: Abstract Nouns

2 Timothy 4:22 (#6)

"you"

Because Paul gives this blessing to Timothy and all the believers who are with him, this is the only place in the letter where **you** is plural.

See: Forms of You

2 Timothy 4:22 (#7)

"you"

Many ancient manuscripts read **you**. The ULT follows that reading. Other ancient manuscripts read "you. Amen." If a translation of the Bible exists in your region, you may wish to use the reading that it uses. If a translation of the Bible does not exist in your region, you may wish to use the reading of the ULT.

See: Textual Variants