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## **Hot Button: What If I've Been Hurt by the Church?**

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**2 Timothy 4:9-11 (NIV):** Do your best to come to me quickly, for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry.

### **Practice #1: Acknowledge and Name the Hurt**

### **Practice #2: Distinguish Between Hurt and Discomfort**

**2 Timothy 4:14-15 (NIV):** Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done. You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message.

- A. Loving Correction
- B. Disagreements
- C. Misunderstandings

### **Practice #3: Choose to Forgive**

**2 Timothy 4:16 (NIV):** At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me...

**2 Timothy 4:16 (NIV):** ...May it not be held against them.

### **Practice #4: Don't Confuse God's People with God**

**2 Timothy 4:16-17 (NIV):** At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it...

### **Practice #5: Focus on What God's Done for You**

**2 Timothy 4:17-18 (NIV):** ...And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Practice #6: Don't Give Up on The Church Because of a Few People in A Church**

**2 Timothy 4:19-21 (NIV):** Greet Priscilla and Aquila and the household of Onesiphorus. Erastus stayed in Corinth, and I left Trophimus sick in Miletus. Do your best to get here before winter. Eubulus greets you, and so do Pudens, Linus, Claudia and all the brothers and sisters.