

STUDY GUIDE

# 1 TIMOTHY

*Train Yourself for Godliness*



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**THEREFORE, AS YOU RECEIVED CHRIST JESUS THE LORD, SO WALK IN HIM, ROOTED AND BUILT UP IN HIM AND ESTABLISHED IN THE FAITH, JUST AS YOU WERE TAUGHT, ABOUNDING IN THANKSGIVING. – COLOSSIANS 2:6-7**

Dear Friend,

Welcome to Morning Bible Study at Richland Creek Community Church! The Creek exists to bring glory to God as we love Him and love others.

One of our discipleship goals is to love God in His Word by daily growing in our obedience and submission to it. We can accomplish this goal, both corporately and individually, by

- Identifying that we are under the authority of God's Word in every area of our life.
- Understanding that to know God's Word fully, we need to study it carefully and obey it rigorously.
- Developing a regular habit of studying God's Word on our own and with other believers.

Thus, the mission of Morning Bible Study is to reach and teach women, encouraging them to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ through Bible Study and fellowship.

What an incredible opportunity we have before us! The Bible is an intelligently designed, inerrant, one-of-a-kind book. Consider this...

*"The Bible is the Word of God: supernatural in origin, eternal in duration, inexpressible in valor, infinite in scope, regenerative in power, infallible in authority, universal in interest, personal in application, inspired in totality. Read it through, write it down, pray it in, work it out, and then pass it on. Truly it is the Word of God." — Smith Wigglesworth*

Ladies, we have the privilege of studying this book — together!

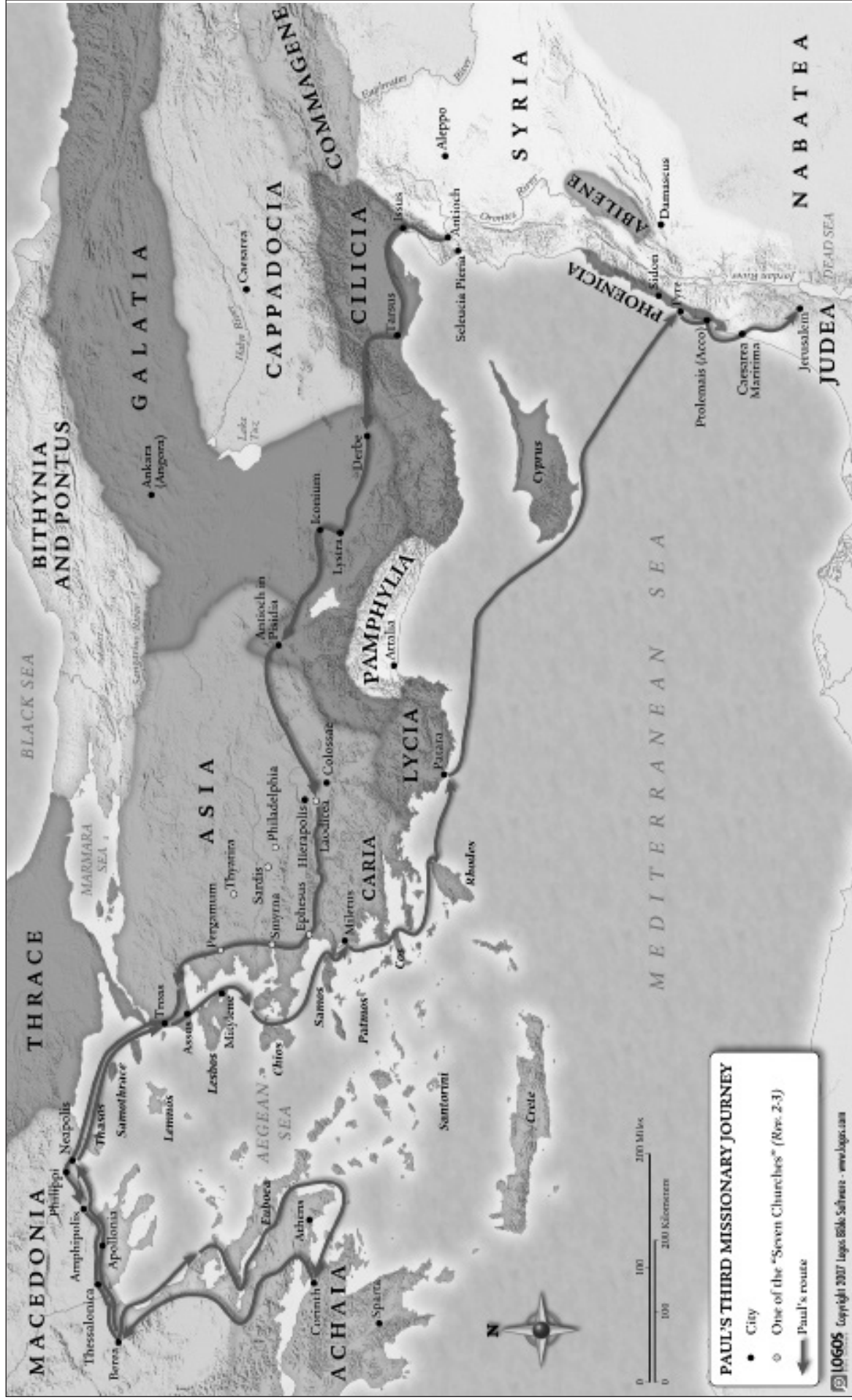
Be intentional. As you spend time reading, listening, studying, and discussing this semester, pray that God will give you eyes to see and ears to hear the truth of His Word — that you may know and rightly understand who Jesus Christ is.

May what we learn help us to love God and love others well.

Love in Christ,

*Elizabeth Rodriguez*  
Lead Teacher, Morning Bible Study





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# *How to Study the Bible*

AND

# *How to Use This Study Guide*

## **THE PURPOSE**

The purpose of Bible study is to know God and to be transformed into His image.

*"And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit." 2 Corinthians 3:18*

The purpose of this study guide is to lead you through the following Bible study process as you study in relationship with other believers at Richland Creek.

## **THE PROCESS**

### ***Pray Continually - Read Repeatedly***

Pray throughout your study time. Approach God in humility, realizing that the Bible is a spiritual book and cannot be understood apart from the Spirit of God.

*"Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name." Psalm 86:11*

The study guide will prompt you to read through our chosen text repeatedly. At the beginning of each week, we will zoom out, reading or listening to (on a Bible app or audio book) the whole chapter or a large section in one sitting, in order to understand the main points and context. Then we will zoom in to focus on details. At the end of the week, we will have the opportunity to zoom back out and reflect on the passage as a whole.

### ***Observation – What does the text say?***

The first step to understanding a passage is basic observation. At this point the main goal is comprehension of the passage. What is the author communicating? After listening to or reading the week's passage as a whole, we will encourage you to write a brief list of the main points or events (you can use your Bible's section titles for help). To get at what the text specifically says, we will then look at many of the details and how each detail contributes to the whole of the passage. As you continue to pray and read, the study guide will lead you to answer basic questions. Who? What? When? Where? Why? How? As you do this, continue to pay attention to the context. How does this verse relate to the ones before it, to the ones after it, to the book as a whole, and to other passages in the Bible? There will be opportunities to note things that are repeated, compared, or contrasted. Feel free to jot down additional things that you notice as you go. The majority of the study guide is devoted to this stage of the process.



***Interpretation – What does the text mean?***

After you have made observations and have a basic comprehension of the passage, the next goal in Bible study is interpretation – to understand the author’s message. Jesus would often say after he taught,

*“He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” Matthew 11:15*

Clearly, the crowd had heard his words, but did they understand his message? Similarly, we must dig further to make sure that we understand the author’s intended purpose for the passage. How does the author tell his story or build his argument? How does this story or teaching fit into the overarching story of God’s work of salvation? What was the significance to the original audience? This is a good time to check cross-references (these found in the margin or at the bottom of Bibles that have cross-references). They will help you find other passages in the Bible that utilize the same words or themes. If you are looking at an unclear passage, often a more clear passage on the same topic will help you gain understanding. This study guide will include some of these cross-references, but look at others from your Bible as well. Pray for spiritual ears to hear God’s message.

While there are some questions focused on this stage in the study guide, understanding the meaning of the message will be the primary focus of the teaching time each Wednesday. One quick note of encouragement: We strongly recommend that you focus your study time at home on the study of the Bible passage without the aid of commentaries or study Bible notes. While these tools are helpful, they are not God’s infallible Word. And they often prevent you from the joy of growing in personal Bible study skills. If you do want to consult these helps, the best time to do that is after your personal study time and the group time.

***Application – What do I do with what I’ve learned?***

All Scripture is useful and beneficial for daily life and doctrine, according to 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

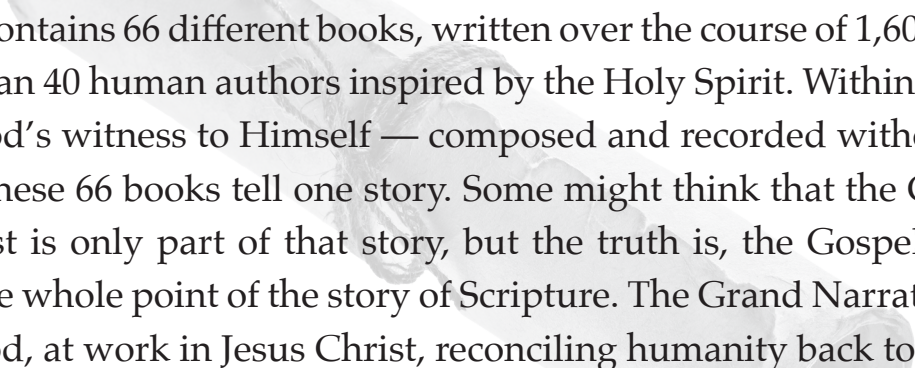
*“His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence” 2 Peter 1:3*

It is through the knowledge of God and His words that we will be equipped for life. But study alone is not enough. We are to be doers of the Word, and not hearers only (James 1:22). Scripture is not truly understood until it is obeyed. Every passage requires that we apply what we have learned by responding to God and His message. We should ask ourselves, “What have I learned about God? How, then, should I change the way I think or speak or act?” We should consider what specific steps are needed to trust, worship, and obey God more faithfully.

There are some application and response type questions sprinkled throughout the study guide, as you reflect and pray personally at home. Also, the group discussion time will not only review what you have learned throughout the week, but also focus on what our response to the message should be. Obedience is more attainable when we can encourage each other in godliness.

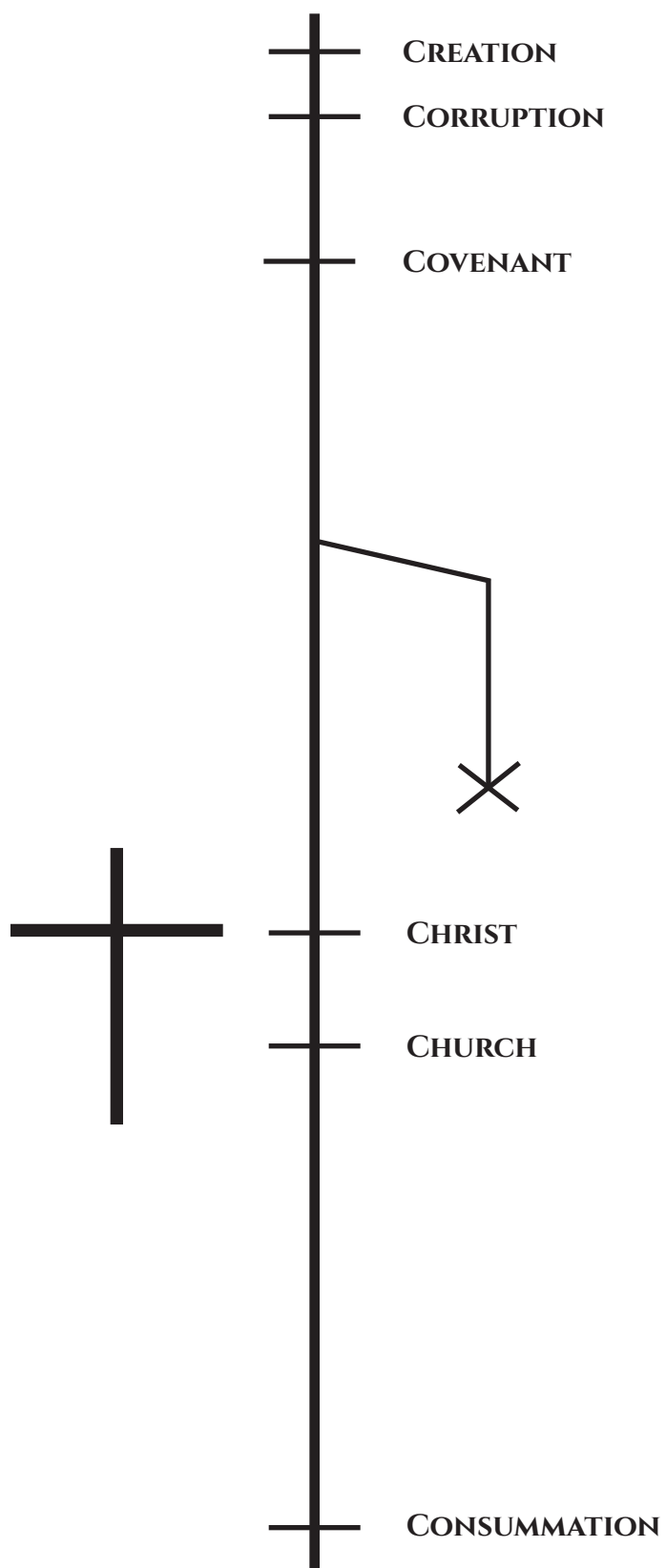
# LESSON ONE

## *The Grand Narrative*



The Bible contains 66 different books, written over the course of 1,600+ years, by more than 40 human authors inspired by the Holy Spirit. Within its pages we find God's witness to Himself — composed and recorded without error. Together, these 66 books tell one story. Some might think that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is only part of that story, but the truth is, the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the whole point of the story of Scripture. The Grand Narrative is the story of God, at work in Jesus Christ, reconciling humanity back to Himself.





Lecture Notes

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. In the bottom-left corner, there is a faint, light-colored illustration of a rolled-up scroll or document, tied with a string. The rest of the page is blank, providing space for writing.

## *For Personal Reflection*

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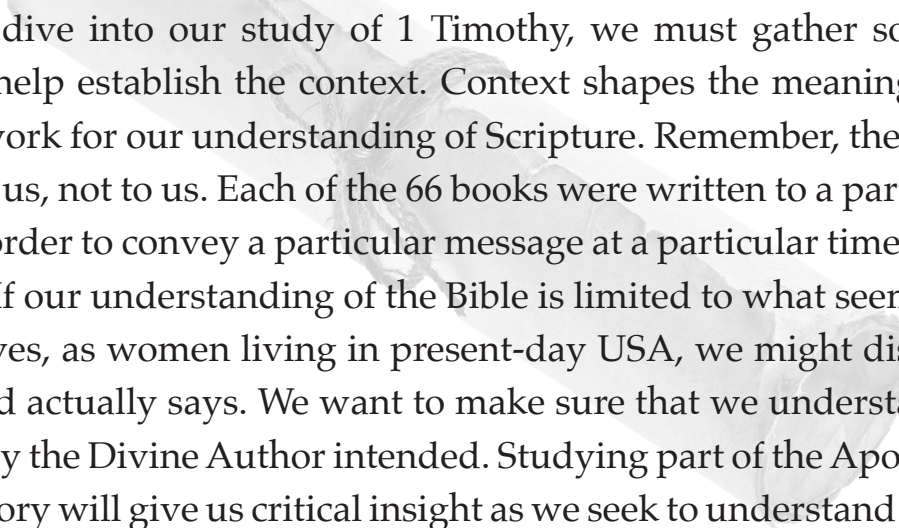
What did you learn about God this week (see Appendix 1 for a list of God's attributes)?

Write down any additional thoughts or questions you have. Then, pray about what you've learned.



# LESSON TWO

## *Context*



Before we dive into our study of 1 Timothy, we must gather some information to help establish the context. Context shapes the meaning and sets the framework for our understanding of Scripture. Remember, the Bible was written for us, not to us. Each of the 66 books were written to a particular audience, in order to convey a particular message at a particular time and place in history. If our understanding of the Bible is limited to what seems right in our own eyes, as women living in present-day USA, we might distort what God's Word actually says. We want to make sure that we understand Scripture the way the Divine Author intended. Studying part of the Apostle Paul's personal story will give us critical insight as we seek to understand and rightly apply what we learn from his first letter to Timothy in the weeks ahead.

## Day One

---

### FOR REVIEW

The Bible is one story. What six words summarize the grand narrative?

|       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

**READ OR LISTEN TO ACTS 9:1-30 AND GALATIANS 1:11-2:10. THEN CHRONICLE BELOW THE MAJOR EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL.**



## Day Two

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**READ ACTS 7:54-8:3 AND 9:1-2 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

Acts 7:58 is the first time Paul is mentioned. Where is he? What is his name?

How did Saul feel about Stephen's execution? Read Acts 8:1 and 22:20.

Look up the definition of the word "approve." Write the definition below.

Read Acts 8:3 and 9:1-2. What was Saul's goal?

From these verses, list the ways Saul tried to stop the church from growing.

Where did Saul begin persecuting the church? Read Acts 8:1, then draw a star next the name of this city on your map.

Where did he decide to continue this persecution? Read Acts 9:2. Draw an arrow on your map from the city that you just starred to this city and label it: "Saul persecutes the church."

### APPLICATION

Persecutors, like Saul, will ravage the church until Jesus comes back. While persecution may never come to you personally, it comes all over the world to our brothers and sisters because they are Christians. Write a prayer for the persecuted church below. Find out more about how to pray for the persecuted church at one of the following websites: [www.imb.org/prayer-list](http://www.imb.org/prayer-list), [www.namb.net/pray](http://www.namb.net/pray)



**FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

Paul is very open about his prior persecution of Christians in his later letters. Read his descriptions of past persecutions in these passages. Note to whom he is speaking or writing and any repeated words or ideas that stand out to you.

Acts 26:9-11

1 Corinthians 15:9

Galatians 1:13-14

Philippians 3:6

*Day Three*

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**READ ACTS 9, FOCUSING ON VERSES 1-9 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

Who was Saul going to persecute? What authority did he have to carry out these persecutions (verses 1-2)?

Read verse 3 again, as well as Acts 22:6 and 26:13. Then draw a picture of what this event might have looked like.



What or who did the light represent? Read Acts 22:12-14, 1 Corinthians 15:6-8 and Galatians 1:15-16.

When persecuting those belonging to “the Way,” who was Saul truly persecuting (verses 4-5)? Write verse 5 below.

Why would Saul persecute Jesus? Read Galatians 1:11-14.

What physical change did Saul go through because of the light from heaven? How long did it last? What did Saul do during this time (verses 8-9)?

### **APPLICATION**

Read Acts 26:12-20. When Paul recounts his conversion in this passage, he asks Jesus one question: “Who are you, Lord?” In light of today’s reading and study, who is Jesus?

Jesus had specific instructions for what He wanted Paul to do. The Bible has instructions for how you ought to live as well. How can you follow Paul’s example of obedience to these instructions?

**FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

Often the Bible uses “light” to describe the presence of God. Read the following passages. Then write below how God’s presence was seen in “light,” “brightness,” or “fire.”

Exodus 3:1-6

Exodus 13:17-22

2 Chronicles 7:1-3

Matthew 17:1-5

Acts 2:1-3

*Day Four*

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**READ ACTS 9:10-19A TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

To whom did Jesus make known His plan for Saul’s ministry before He even told Saul himself (see Acts 9:10, 15)?

Why was Ananias hesitant to obey (verses 13-14).



Record and compare Ananias's reaction (Acts 9:13-14) and Saul's reaction (Acts 22:19-20) to God's choosing of Saul.

Ananias

Saul

How does Jesus describe Saul and his calling? Use verse 15 (ESV version) to fill in the blanks.

"Go, for he is a \_\_\_\_\_ of mine, to \_\_\_\_\_  
my \_\_\_\_\_ before the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and the  
\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_."

Why did Jesus send Ananias to lay his hands on Saul (verse 17)?

- 1.
- 2.

When the scales fell from Saul's eyes, he went from blindness to sight (verse 18). What spiritual event might this symbolize? Read Mark 10:46-52.

When was Saul baptized? What was he declaring by being baptized? Read verses 18-19 and Romans 6:3-5.

### APPLICATION

Although at first hesitant, Ananias obeyed fully what the Lord told him to do. Is there an area in which you are struggling to obey? Write it down below, then write a Bible verse or passage that will encourage you in obedience in this area. If you need help with this, talk to your discussion group leader, life group leader or a pastor.

### FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)

In Acts 9:10, Ananias answered Jesus' call with, "Here I am." Throughout the Bible, saints were called to obedience in confusing or unique ways. Choose one or more of these passages. Then record what responding with "Here I am" meant for these saints.

Abraham, Genesis 22:1-2

Jacob, Genesis 31:11-13; 46:2-4

Moses, Exodus 3:4, 10-11

Samuel, 1 Samuel 3:4, 11-13

Isaiah, Isaiah 6:8-11

Mary, Luke 1:38



## Day Five

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**READ ACTS 9:19-31 AND GALATIANS 1:11-24 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

Where did Saul go to first proclaim Jesus? What did he proclaim about Jesus (Acts 9:20)?

What response(s) did the Jews in Damascus have (Acts 9:21-22)? Check all that apply.

☐ amazement      ☐ excitement      ☐ astonishment  
☐ confusion      ☐ fear      ☐ love

Why had Saul come to Damascus? Read Acts 9:1-2. Why did Saul have to leave Damascus? Read Acts 9:23-25.

After his conversion, was Saul able to meet the apostles immediately (Acts 9:26-27)?

☐ Yes      ☐ No      Why or why not?

Who was instrumental in arranging this meeting?

Read Galatians 1:18-24 again. How long was it before Paul made his way to Jerusalem? Which apostles did he meet there?

What was the response of the churches in Judea to Paul's conversion?



Having spent a week studying about the Apostle Paul, look back at one or two passages (like Acts 26:1-23 and Galatians 1:18-2:14) and compare Paul's actions and personality before and after his conversion. Circle any attributes that are similar.

Before Conversion

After Conversion

### APPLICATION

Galatians 1:15 says that God had "set Saul apart from before birth." Yet Saul "kicked against the goads" (Acts 26:12-18), or struggled to accept God's plan. Jesus tells Saul not to make life difficult and embrace the eternal plan for his life. Have you made your own life difficult by struggling to sacrifice your plans for yourself to Jesus' plan for you? Record or journal those struggles and choose to lay them down today.

### FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)

Jesus tells Ananias in Acts 9:16 that Saul "will suffer much for the sake of my (Jesus') name." Read 2 Corinthians 11:24-28 and copy some specific sufferings that Paul endured in Jesus' name.



## *For Personal Reflection*

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What did you learn about God this week (see Appendix 1 for a list of God's attributes)?

Write down any additional thoughts or questions you have. Then, pray about what you've learned.

Lecture Notes



## *Group Time*

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### **WARM UP QUESTION**

What is something, big or small, about which you are particularly stubborn? How do you feel when your stubbornness is challenged?

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CHOOSE SEVERAL)**

We looked this week at the life-changing encounter between Saul and Jesus. While light may not have shown from heaven, how has Jesus revealed Himself to you and changed your life?

Have you, someone you know, or someone you know of, ever experienced some kind of persecution for Jesus? What happened?

As you read Saul's account on his "manner of life" before salvation, could you relate to it? What was your life, or outlook on life, like before you became a Christian?

Ananias was in Saul's life for a short amount of time, but helped Saul's understanding of Jesus and himself deepen. Has there been someone who was part of your life for a short time, but helped your understanding of Jesus, or how to live for Him deepen?

Jesus said Saul was a chosen instrument to carry His name to all people (Acts 9:15). How does Jesus still use Christians as His instruments today?

Why was Saul baptized (Acts 9:17-18)? Why are people baptized today?

How would you describe Paul's personality in one word? Is it possible for Christians who do not have a personality like Paul's to impact the world with the gospel? What are some ways that any Christian can impact the world with the gospel?

We read this week that God had a specific plan for Paul's life. Do you believe that God has an eternal plan for everyone or can people make their own plans? How can we know God's plan?

Read Philippians 3:4-11. What specific things have you counted as loss, or do you need to count as loss, in order to pursue Christ?

Paul suffered much for the cause of Christ. Has God ever used your suffering to bring about good (Romans 8:28)? One way we can prepare for future suffering is through memorizing the Bible (Ephesians 6:17). What verses can we memorize that can help us endure future suffering?



# LESSON THREE

*/ Timothy /*

Though once an opponent of God and the gospel, Paul was a recipient of God's grace and the "perfect patience" of Christ. God had sent Paul on a mission and entrusted him with a body of truth to set before the churches that he established. In 1 Timothy 1, we see that Paul is entrusting this same truth to Timothy. In Paul's absence, Timothy's job was to continue to "wage the good warfare" of faith, standing firm in this truth, and not swerving from it into the different doctrine and myths of the false teachers. We too must take up the charge of "love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith."



## Day One

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### FOR REVIEW (CONTEXT)

What did you learn about the apostle Paul last week? What was his encounter with Christ like? What did God call Paul to do?

**LISTEN TO OR READ ALL OF I TIMOTHY (CHAPTERS 1-6). THEN NOTE BELOW THE MAJOR TOPICS OF THE BOOK (HINT: THE BOLD HEADINGS IN YOUR BIBLE WILL HELP WITH THIS).**

## Day Two

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**READ I TIMOTHY 1, FOCUSING ON VERSES 1-7 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

What does Paul say about God in verses 1-2? What does he say about Jesus?



How does Paul refer to Timothy in verse 2? How does this compare to what he says about Timothy in 2 Timothy 1:2?

We see in verse 3 that Paul left Timothy in Ephesus while he went on to Macedonia. Find these two locations on your map. Write "Timothy" next to Ephesus and "Paul writes 1 Timothy" next to Macedonia.

Why did Paul leave Timothy in Ephesus? What did he expect for him to do there? Read 1 Timothy 1:3, 3:14-15, and 4:11-16.

Read 1 Timothy 1:3-7 again and notice the contrast between Paul/Timothy's teaching and purpose and that of their opponents (Paul refers to them as "certain persons" or "some").

Paul and Timothy

Opponents ("certain persons" or "some")

The goal of Paul's (and Timothy's) charge or command was love. According to verse 5, where must this love come from?

A \_\_\_\_\_ heart

A \_\_\_\_\_ conscience

A \_\_\_\_\_ faith

### APPLICATION

Paul warns Timothy about people who have wandered away from the clear teaching of the gospel into vain discussions and false doctrine. Think back over your week and note below what people/media/resources have steered you toward God and His Word and what people/media/resources have steered you away from God and His Word.

Toward:

Away:

What specific changes should you make in light of what you have learned today?

### FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)

The relationship between faith and love is a key theme in Paul and Peter's letters. Explore this theme more in these passages, noting what you learn:

Galatians 5:6

Ephesians 1:15 and Colossians 1:4

2 Thessalonians 1:3

Philemon 1:4-7

1 Peter 1:17-23



## Day Three

---

**READ 1 TIMOTHY 1, FOCUSING ON VERSES 8-11 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

In verse 8, Paul states that the law is “good.” Read Romans 7:12 and write below what other words Paul uses to describe the law of Moses.

Paul says, however, that the law must be used “lawfully.” In verses 9-10, who does he say the law is for and who is it not for?

Not for:

For:

*\*\*Go back and look up in an English dictionary any of the words that you listed above that you don't know their meaning. Write the meaning next to the word above.*

What does Paul mean that the law is for the disobedient rather than the just? Paul explains this in more detail in Romans. Read Romans 7:4-7. Write below what Paul teaches about the law as you answer the following questions:

What did the law help Paul (and us) to know (verse 7)?

What is a believer's relationship to the law now that they belong to Christ (verses 4 and 6)?

Read Galatians 3:24-27. Write below what you learn about the relationship between the law and faith in Christ.

Paul says that he has been entrusted with what (1 Timothy 1:11)?

*The "gospel" is the good news that Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah, was crucified for our sins and raised from the dead, and is the Lord of all creation. - Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary*

*"Sound doctrine" is the healthy teaching which flows out of the gospel. - ESV Study Bible*

#### **APPLICATION**

Read through the sins listed in verses 9-10. Which of these are you guilty of, according to the law of God? Has the knowledge of this guilt led you to turn to Christ for salvation and forgiveness? If not, do so today!

For believers, the righteous requirement of the law has been fulfilled in us through Christ! Read Romans 8:1-4. Praise God for this amazing gift! How now are we to "walk" (verse 4)?

#### **FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

The sins listed in verses 1 Timothy 1:9-10 are said to be "contrary to sound doctrine." Read 1 Timothy 6:3, 2 Timothy 1:13, 4:3, and Titus 1:13, 2:1-3 and write below what else you learn about Paul's theme of sound doctrine or teaching.



## Day Four

---

**READ 1 TIMOTHY 1, FOCUSING ON VERSES 12-17 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

Why does Paul thank Jesus (verse 12)?

Paul says that Jesus “judged him faithful” and appointed Paul to serve him. Was Paul declared faithful because of his past actions (see verse 13)?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No

Why or why not?

Why does Paul say that he received mercy (verses 13 and 16)?

How did Paul receive mercy (verse 15)? How does Paul describe himself in this verse?

Who else did Jesus come to save (verse 15)?

In addition to mercy, what else did Paul receive from Jesus (see verses 14 and 16)?

The memory of his salvation causes Paul to praise God in verse 17. What do you learn about God in this verse?

### **APPLICATION**

Paul was judged faithful, not because of his past, but because of the mercy and grace that was shown to him in Christ. Paul was able to serve God with confidence, not because of what he had done, but because of what Christ had done in him. What is the basis for your service to the Lord?

How can Paul's example encourage us (verse 16)?

### **FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

Like Paul, we were enemies of God before salvation. Read Ephesians 2:1-10. List below what this passage says regarding who you were before Christ in contrast to who you are now:

Before Faith in Christ

After Faith in Christ



## Day Five

---

**READ 1 TIMOTHY 1, FOCUSING ON VERSES 18-20 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

What “charge” or “command” is Paul entrusting to Timothy in verse 18? Look back at verses 3, 5, 10b-11, and 15.

What do we learn about Paul’s relationship with Timothy in chapter 1 (see verses 2 and 18)?

Read Acts 16:1-5, 19:22, 1 Corinthians 4:17, 16:10-11, and Philippians 2:19-24. What else do you learn about Timothy?

In 1 Timothy 1:18 Paul mentions “prophecies” that had been made regarding Timothy. Read more about this in 1 Timothy 4:13-16. What else do you learn about this prophecy and Timothy’s gift?

Look at today’s verses again and contrast below what Paul is instructing Timothy to do versus what Hymenaeus and Alexander did.

Timothy

Hymenaeus and Alexander



What does Paul mean when he instructs Timothy to “wage the good warfare” (verse 18)? See also 2 Corinthians 10:4-5, 1 Timothy 6:12, and Ephesians 6:11-13.

### **APPLICATION**

One does not effortlessly stand firm in faith. Trusting and obeying God is an act of war. Are you fighting the good fight of faith or have you made shipwreck of your faith? There is still hope! What do you need to do to stand firm in faith today?

### **FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

We’ve seen the repeated language in chapter 1 of “entrusting” and “steward.” Look up the word “steward” and write the definition below. Then trace this theme in other passages and write what you learn about Paul’s (and our) stewardship. What has been entrusted to Paul, or us, and what is our responsibility?

#### **Steward:**

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Ephesians 3:1-9

Colossians 1:24-29

2 Timothy 1:11-14

1 Peter 4:10-11



## *For Personal Reflection*

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What did you learn about God this week (see Appendix 1 for a list of God's attributes)?

Write down any additional thoughts or questions you have. Then, pray about what you've learned.

Lecture Notes



## *Group Time*

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### **WARM UP QUESTION**

What is something that has been entrusted to you for safe keeping (now or in the past)? What is your attitude toward that responsibility?

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CHOOSE SEVERAL)**

We have seen this week that the gospel is something that is passed on from person to person. Who first shared the gospel with you?

As you reflected this week, what examples can you give of people/media/resources that have steered you toward God and His Word? What people/media/resources have tempted to steer you away from God and His Word?

Paul states that our love should come from a “pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” How does this kind of love differ from a false, worldly “love”?

Have you ever been part of a “vain discussion” full of “speculations” but devoid of truth? Why is this kind of conversation dangerous? How can we avoid them?

Have you ever made “confident assertions” about something you didn’t really know anything about? How can this bad habit damage our relationships?

What is the difference between using the law “lawfully” and using it irresponsibly? What is the purpose of the law?

What should the believer’s relationship be toward the Law of Moses now that we have trusted in Christ for righteousness? Do we ignore it? Study it? Keep it?

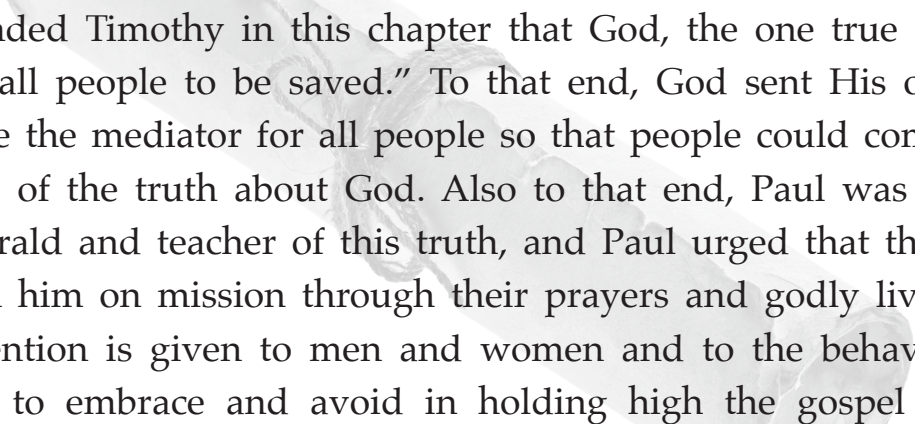
How can Paul’s example in verses 12-16 encourage us...specifically as it relates to our salvation (see verses 13-16) and our service (verse 12)?

What do you learn about God in this chapter (especially in verse 17)? And how should that knowledge of God change our thinking or actions?



# LESSON FOUR

*1 Timothy 2*



Paul reminded Timothy in this chapter that God, the one true God, desired for “all people to be saved.” To that end, God sent His only Son, Jesus, to be the mediator for all people so that people could come to the knowledge of the truth about God. Also to that end, Paul was appointed as a herald and teacher of this truth, and Paul urged that the church would join him on mission through their prayers and godly living. Particular attention is given to men and women and to the behaviors that they were to embrace and avoid in holding high the gospel of faith.

## Day One

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### FOR REVIEW (1 TIMOTHY 1)

What was the message (command or charge) that Paul had entrusted to Timothy? How did this teaching contrast with the false prophets?

**LISTEN TO OR READ ALL OF 1 TIMOTHY (CHAPTERS 1-6). WHILE READING OR LISTENING TO THESE CHAPTERS, USE THE PRINTED COPY IN THE BACK OF THE GUIDE TO UNDERLINE EVERY OCCURRENCE OF THE WORD "GOOD" IN RED.**

## Day Two

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**READ 1 TIMOTHY 2, FOCUSING ON VERSES 1-7 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

Paul's first order of business is to urge the believers to pray. List below the four words that Paul uses for prayer in verse 1. Use a dictionary to help you understand the differences and/or similarities between these four words for prayer. Record what you learn about each word below.

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Who does Paul tell the believers to pray for in verse 1? Who does he specifically tell them to pray for in verse 2?

What is the intended result of these prayers in verse 2?

What, do you think, is the relationship between this outcome (from the previous question) and the need to pray for kings and those in high authority?

What do we learn in this passage about what pleases God or what God desires?

In verse 5, we are reminded that there is only one \_\_\_\_\_ and one \_\_\_\_\_ between God and men, the man \_\_\_\_\_.

#### APPLICATION

Since there is only one God and one way to God, through Jesus Christ, then it makes sense that we need to pray for all people to come to know this God through faith in Jesus. He is worthy of the praise of all His creation. And Jesus is their only hope. Pray today for those in your life who need to turn to Him.



**FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

We are told in these verses to pray for kings and those in high authority. Read the following verses and note what you learn about the Lord's ability in relation to the heart of kings.

Proverbs 21:1

Ezra 6:22, 7:27-28

Exodus 14:8 and Deuteronomy 2:30

Daniel 4:28-37

*Day Three*

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**READ 1 TIMOTHY 2, FOCUSING ON VERSES 1-7 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

We read in verse 5 that there is one God and one mediator. Look up the word "mediator" and define it below.

Read Acts 4:11-12, Ephesians 2:14-18, Hebrews 7:25, Hebrews 9:14-15, 24, and John 14:6 and note below what you learn about Jesus' role as the only mediator between God and man.

In His role as mediator, Jesus died to become a "ransom for all." Look up the word "ransom" and define it below.



Read Hosea 13:14, Matthew 20:28, 1 Peter 1:18-21, and Revelation 5:9-10. What do you learn about the following:

What we need to be ransomed / redeemed / bought back from:

What Jesus did to ransom us (or what was the cost of the purchase):

Who can be ransomed:

What is the result of our ransom:

Read 1 Timothy 2:5-7 again, with your new knowledge of Christ's work as redeemer and mediator. Then note below Paul's three jobs that he lists in verse 7.

*The word "apostle" means "one who is sent." It can be used in the narrow sense to refer to the original men who were chosen by Christ, who had seen the risen Lord, and were sent to carry His message to the world. In the more broad sense, it is used of anyone who is sent by Jesus. - from the Hollman Illustrated Bible Dictionary*

How do Paul's jobs relate to the gospel? In other words, how did Paul's roles, what he was doing (verse 7), flow from what God had already done through the work of Christ (verses 4-6)?



### APPLICATION

Paul called himself a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher, even though his trade (how he supported himself) was as a tentmaker (Acts 18:3). In light of this and what you have learned, who would you say you are? What is your role in the mission of God and His gospel?

### FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)

Paul says in verse 4 that God desires for “all people to be saved.” Does God love all people? Will all people be saved? Explore this topic more from the following passages:

Ezekiel 18:23-32

John 3:16-18

Matthew 25:31-46

## *Day Four*

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**READ 1 TIMOTHY 2, FOCUSING ON VERSES 8-15 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

In verse 8, what did Paul want the men to do? What did he not want the men to do?

Do

Don't Do

How did Paul want them to pray? Note also what you learn in Psalm 24:3-4.



In verses 9-10, what did Paul want the women to do? What did he not want the women to do?

Do

Don't Do

Read 1 Peter 3:3-4. How would you summarize Paul and Peter's teaching on the priorities that women should have in how they "adorn" themselves (or what they put on)?

Read 1 Timothy 2:11 again. Did Paul allow women to learn? If so, how?

*"Submission is the voluntary placement of oneself under the authority and leadership of another." - Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary*

Based on today's passage, what problems might there have been in the Ephesian church? See also 1 Timothy 6:3-5, 17-21.

### APPLICATION

Based on what you've learned today, how can you better adorn yourself for worship - both externally and internally?

**FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

Submission is not a popular word in our culture, however it is an important biblical concept for both men and women. Read the following passages for a fuller understanding of submission and note what you learn.

Psalms 81:10-14, Romans 10:1-4, James 4:7

Romans 13:1, Titus 3:1, 1 Peter 2:13

Ephesians 5:17-21

Ephesians 5:22-24, Titus 2:4-5

Hebrews 13:7, 17

*Day Five*

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**READ 1 TIMOTHY 2, FOCUSING ON VERSES 8-15 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

What does Paul not permit a woman to do (verse 12)?

Look up the word “authority” in a dictionary and write the definition below.



Who is supposed to teach and exercise authority over the whole church (look ahead to 1 Timothy 3:1-5)?

Note these other biblical examples of ways or scenarios in which women are permitted to:

Teach: Titus 2:3-5, 2 Timothy 1:5, Acts 18:26

Exercise Authority: Judges 4:4-5

Speak in the church congregation: 1 Corinthians 11:3

What two reasons does Paul give for why women are not permitted to teach or exercise authority over men in the church congregation (verses 13-14)?

Both of these reasons go back to the story of the creation and fall of Adam and Eve.

Read Genesis 1:26-28. In what ways are Adam and Eve equal in creation and dominion?

Read Genesis 2:7, 15-24. How are Adam and Eve different in the order in which they are created and in their roles after they are first created?

Read Genesis 3:1-19. How did Adam and Eve fail to fulfill their responsibilities to God, to each other, and to the creation in this passage?

Go back and read 1 Timothy 2:15. This is a really tough one to understand! How might this verse about the salvation of the woman (singular) relate back to God's promise in Genesis 3:15? See also Galatians 4:4-5 and Hebrews 2:14.

Whatever Paul means in this verse about how "the woman" is "saved," we know that he is not referring to women being saved from sin because of their good works. Look at these other clearer passages to see how all people, male and female, are saved from sin.

Ephesians 2:8-9

Titus 3:4-7

Galatians 3:23-29

### **APPLICATION**

Look back over 1 Timothy 2:9-15. Of all the things that women are called to do and not do, what is the most difficult for you? Pray for the Lord to help you grow in this area this week. What specific action can you take this week in this area?

### **FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

Paul directs that women should learn "quietly" and "remain quiet" in regard to corporate teaching. We tend to think of this as a negative thing. Take a few minutes to gain a fuller understanding of the theme of quietness in scripture by reading these verses: Psalm 131:1-3, Proverbs 17:1, Ecclesiastes 4:6 and 9:17, Isaiah 30:15, 1 Thessalonians 4:11, and 1 Timothy 2:2. How would you summarize what you've learned?



## *For Personal Reflection*

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What did you learn about God this week (see Appendix 1 for a list of God's attributes)?

Write down any additional thoughts or questions you have. Then, pray about what you've learned.



Lecture Notes



## *Group Time*

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### **WARM UP QUESTION**

Paul discusses women's clothing and accessories this week! What is your favorite (or least favorite) accessory and why?

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CHOOSE SEVERAL)**

We are told to pray for leaders and those in high positions. Why should we pray for them, according to this passage?

What have you learned about God, and what pleases Him, this week? How does this truth change the way we should live?

What is a mediator? Why do we need one?

Paul called himself a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher, even though his trade was as a tent-maker (Acts 18:3). In light of this and what you have learned, who would you say you are? What is your role in the mission of God and His gospel?

How do you think today's churches in America are doing when it comes to Paul's instructions for men and women in verses 8-12? What needs to change?

Immodesty in ancient Ephesus looked like "braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire." How do we define what is modest and immodest today?

When you think of the word "modesty" what picture comes to mind? What internal and external traits are necessary to walk in Biblical modesty?

Look back over 1 Timothy 2:9-15. Of all the things that women are called to do and not do, what is the most difficult for you?

How does this week's passage cut against the thinking of our culture?

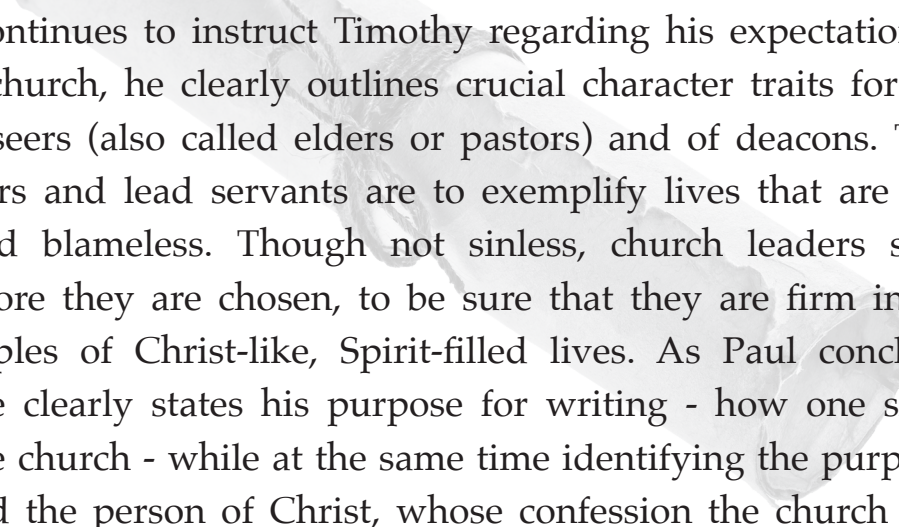
How can we pray for our governing officials today?

Who in your life can we pray for today to "be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth"?



# LESSON FIVE

*1 Timothy 3*



As Paul continues to instruct Timothy regarding his expectations for the Ephesian church, he clearly outlines crucial character traits for the offices of overseers (also called elders or pastors) and of deacons. These servant leaders and lead servants are to exemplify lives that are above reproach and blameless. Though not sinless, church leaders should be tested, before they are chosen, to be sure that they are firm in the faith and examples of Christ-like, Spirit-filled lives. As Paul concludes this chapter, he clearly states his purpose for writing - how one should behave in the church - while at the same time identifying the purpose of the church and the person of Christ, whose confession the church lifts high.

## Day One

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### FOR REVIEW (1 TIMOTHY 2)

From last week, what is God's desire for all people? What behaviors did Paul want the church to avoid and what behaviors did he want them to embrace as they lifted high the gospel?

**LISTEN TO OR READ ALL OF 1 TIMOTHY (CHAPTERS 1-6). WHILE READING OR LISTENING TO THESE CHAPTERS, USE THE PRINTED COPY IN THE BACK OF THE GUIDE TO DOUBLE-UNDERLINE EVERY OCCURRENCE OF THE WORD "TRUTH" IN BLUE..**

## Day Two

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### READ 1 TIMOTHY 3, FOCUSING ON VERSES 1-7 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

How does Paul describe the office of an overseer in verse 1 (what kind of task is it)?

Read Acts 20:17-18, 28-32, Titus 1:5-9 and 1 Peter 5:1-5. Then summarize below what a job description of an overseer (or elder or pastor) in the church should be.



List the qualifications of an overseer found in 1 Timothy 3:2-3. Then list the expectations and characteristics of all believers found in 1 Peter 4:7-10 and Galatians 5:22-26. Circle any repeated words or ideas found in two or more of the passages.

1 Timothy 3:2-3

1 Peter 4:7-10

Galatians 5:22-26

What gift(s) of the Spirit (a list of gifts can be found in Romans 12:6-8) is/are required of an overseer (verse 2)?

According to verses 4-5, how does an overseer need to manage his own household? Why is this important?

Why should an overseer be spiritually mature? What could happen if he is not spiritually mature? Read verse 6.

Who are the “outsiders” spoken of in verse 7? Why would it be important for an overseer to “be well thought of by outsiders?”

In verses 1-7, is an overseer described as more important or useful to God than other church members?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No

### APPLICATION

Pastors are to be examples to the rest of the church. This is why in Hebrews 13:7 the church is told to “imitate” their leaders. Look back at the characteristics listed in today’s passage and in 1 Peter 4 and Galatians 5. Pray for your pastors to be examples in these things.

What about you? Who in your life are you to be an example for? What specific characteristics should you pray about and work on this week as you live a life of godliness?

### FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)

Verses 6-7 make clear that overseers are vulnerable to Satan. Ephesians 6 is a reminder that all Christians (overseers included) are fighting in a spiritual war. According to Ephesians 6:10-12, who do Christians war against?

Read verses 13-18. Record below how all Christians are to fight spiritual battles. What are the weapons of our warfare?

## *Day Three*

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### READ 1 TIMOTHY 3, FOCUSING ON VERSES 8-13 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

Read Philippians 1:1. How does Paul identify himself and Timothy? To whom does he address the letter (don’t miss the two offices that are mentioned)?

*The NT contains little explicit discussion on the role of deacons (unless Acts 6 is understood to refer to the installation of the first deacons), but the Greek word diakonos means "servant," so the office probably involved being responsible for various areas of service in the church. - ESV Study Bible*

The qualifications for deacons are not exactly the same as those for overseers. To gain a fuller understanding, fill in the blanks with words that are opposite in meaning from the characteristic in the adjacent column (verses 8-10).

| Deacons must be...         | Deacons must not be... |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| dignified                  | _____                  |
| _____                      | double-tongued         |
| _____                      | given to drunkenness   |
| _____                      | greedy for money       |
| holding to the faith       | _____                  |
| clear conscience           | _____                  |
| tested and found blameless | _____                  |

*\*put a star by any characteristics that were also listed under overseers*

What other requirements do an overseer and deacon have in common? See especially verses 2, 5, 10, 12.

Write verse 11 below. This verse can be translated two ways, either as "their wives" or "the women." Circle that phrase. Underline the four requirements that follow.



Women had a special role in the church, whether the wife of a leader or a servant herself. Use the following verses and record the name given, describing how that woman or women served the early church.

| Woman/Women               | Service |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Romans 16:1-2             |         |
| Acts 18:18, Romans 16:3-5 |         |
| Philippians 4:2-3         |         |
| Titus 2:3-4               |         |

Notice that both deacons and their wives (or female deacons) are to be careful with their tongues (verses 8 and 11). Why would this be an important quality in a deacon?

Reread 3:1-13. How would you summarize Paul's priorities for Christian leaders in the church?

### APPLICATION

The New Testament shows women in the church serving the poor, working with other women, helping teach children, caring for orphans and working for the advancement of the gospel. God gives women gifts to use in the church today. Are there any God-given gifts you are not using? Record any activities or good works that you can pursue.



**FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL):**

The word “mystery” is a favorite of the Apostle Paul’s. Using these passages, discover what is “the mystery of the faith?”

Ephesians 3:4-13

Colossians 1:26-2:2

## *Day Four*

---

**READ 1 TIMOTHY 3, FOCUSING ON VERSES 14-15 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

What are Paul’s plans (verse 14)? Hint: “You” in this verse is plural, meaning “you all.”

What is Paul’s purpose for writing this epistle or letter (verses 14-15)?

How is the church described in this passage? Read verse 15 (ESV).

the \_\_\_\_\_ of God

the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ God

a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of truth

Look up the word “household” in a dictionary and write the definition below. Note also this word’s use in verses 5 and 12.

Using that definition, look again at 1 Timothy 3:15 and explain what you think Paul means by “God’s household.”

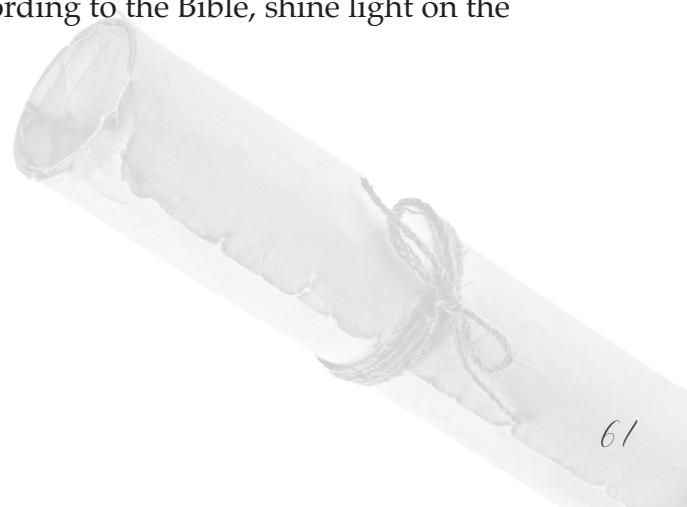
All Christians are members of God’s household and are expected to conduct their lives in accordance with the gospel. Read Ephesians 2:19-22, in which Paul makes a similar comparison, and write below what you learn.

Draw a building with a foundation, pillars, and a roof.

A pillar supports the roof of a building. The buttress or foundation supports the pillar and walls, which supports the roof. Label your picture according to verse 15. The “pillars” and “foundation” are the church. The “truth” of the gospel is the roof.

#### **APPLICATION**

Reading verse 15 we see that the church is to protect and lift high the gospel (the good news of Jesus Christ). What specific words and behaviors, according to the Bible, shine light on the gospel? What words and behaviors obscure it?



**FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

Paul reminds us that we are the church of “the living God.” Read the following verses to see when else this title has been used to refer to God. Pay careful attention to the context of each verse. Write what you notice below.

Deuteronomy 5:26

Joshua 3:10

1 Samuel 17:26

2 Kings 19:16

Daniel 6:20

Matthew 16:16

Acts 14:15

Hebrews 12:22

*Day Five*

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**READ 1 TIMOTHY 3, FOCUSING ON VERSE 16 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

Verse 16 contains an early creed or confession of the church. How does Paul describe this confession (in the first part of the verse)?

Read each line of the confession below. Then answer the questions that follow.

He was manifested in the flesh

vindicated by the Spirit

seen by angels

proclaimed among the nations

believed on in the world

taken up in glory.

If something is manifest it is readily seen, perceived or made obvious. When was Jesus first “manifested in the flesh?” Why did He come? Read John 1:14, Galatians 4:4-5 and 1 Peter 1:18-20. Draw a manger and cross beside the first line above.

Look up the word “vindicate” in a dictionary, then read Romans 1:4. Note what you learn below, then draw an empty tomb beside the second line.

Angels were present to witness a number of events in Jesus’ life. Read Luke 2:13-14, Matthew 28:1-7, and Acts 1:9-11. Record these events below, then draw angels beside the third line.

Jesus gave His disciples (and us!) the charge to proclaim His gospel among all the nations. Read Matthew 28:18-20. Draw a megaphone or trumpet beside the fourth line.

Obedience in proclaiming the gospel has led many throughout the earth to “believe on” Jesus. Read Mark 16:15-16. Draw a globe beside the fifth line.

A short time after His resurrection, Jesus ascended or was “taken up” into the clouds. Read Acts 1:9-11 and Hebrews 1:3. Where is Jesus now? Draw a crown next to the last line.

Who does this confession reveal as the “mystery of godliness”?



## *For Personal Reflection*

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What did you learn about God this week (see Appendix 1 for a list of God's attributes)?

Write down any additional thoughts or questions you have. Then, pray about what you've learned.



Lecture Notes

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. In the bottom-left corner, there is a small, light-colored illustration of a rolled-up document or scroll, secured with a piece of twine or string. The rest of the page is blank, providing space for writing.



## *Group Time*

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### **WARM UP QUESTION**

Is there a trustworthy or tried-and-true saying that has impacted you or that you heard growing up? Do you have a saying that you pass on to others?

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CHOOSE SEVERAL)**

In verse 1 we see that it is a “noble” thing to aspire to be a pastor. Does that mean that pastors are more important than other church members? Why or why not?

What church leader, now or in the past, has had an impact on your spiritual walk or growth in godliness? What are you most thankful for about this person?

When you look at the characteristics of godly leaders in this chapter, how do they compare to attributes that all Christians should have? Are there any that stand out as being unique to pastors or deacons?

What should a pastor’s job description look like? Look, for example, at Acts 20:17-18, 28-32, Titus 1:5-9 and 1 Peter 5:1-5.

In what ways are all church members called to serve and minister? Check out Ephesians 4:11-16.

What roles do women have in the church? What ways could a woman serve that a man may not be able to serve?

What do you value most in a Christian leader? How would you summarize Paul’s priorities for Christian leaders in the church?

What are some similarities and differences between a typical household and “the household of God”? What responsibilities do we have in each?

Reading verse 15 we see that the church is to protect and lift high the gospel (the good news of Jesus Christ). What specific words and behaviors, according to the Bible, shine light on the gospel? What words and behaviors obscure it?

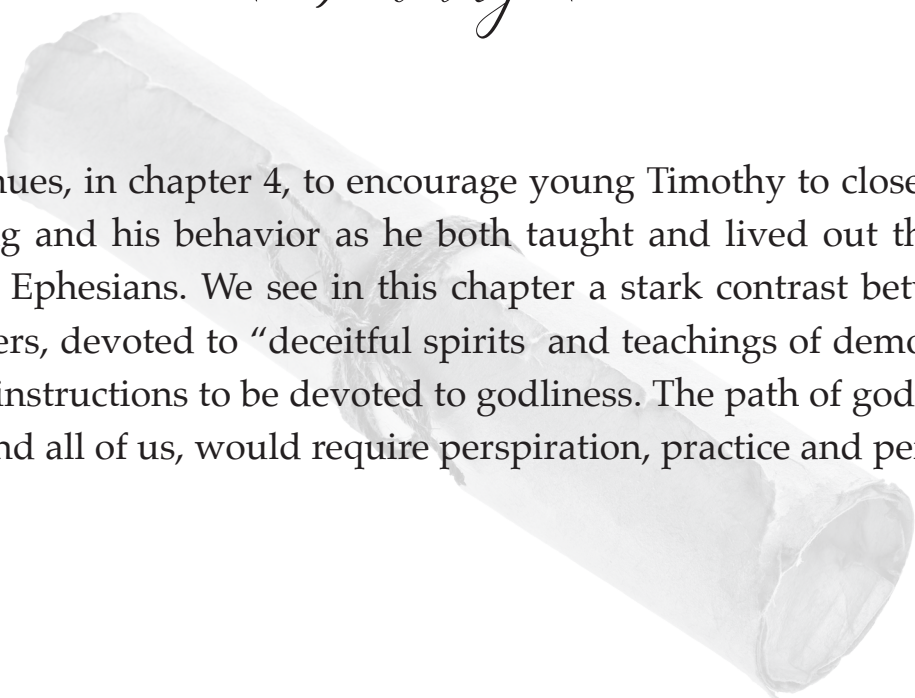
What is something that you learned or that stood out to you about the doctrine (or teaching) of the church this week - its purpose, conduct, or beliefs?

What stood out to you about the confession of Jesus - what He did or who He is?

# LESSON SIX

*1 Timothy 4*

Paul continues, in chapter 4, to encourage young Timothy to closely watch his teaching and his behavior as he both taught and lived out the gospel among the Ephesians. We see in this chapter a stark contrast between the false teachers, devoted to “deceitful spirits and teachings of demons,” and Timothy’s instructions to be devoted to godliness. The path of godliness for Timothy, and all of us, would require perspiration, practice and persistence.



## Day One

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### FOR REVIEW (1 TIMOTHY 3)

How would you summarize in your own words the characteristics needed for overseers? For deacons? For the church as a whole?

**LISTEN TO OR READ ALL OF 1 TIMOTHY (CHAPTERS 1-6). WHILE READING OR LISTENING TO THESE CHAPTERS, USE THE PRINTED COPY IN THE BACK OF THE GUIDE TO DRAW A BOX AROUND EVERY OCCURRENCE OF THE WORDS "GODLINESS" AND "GODLY."**

## Day Two

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### READ 1 TIMOTHY 4, FOCUSING ON VERSES 1-5 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

What time period is Paul discussing in these verses (see verse 1)?

*The last days, or later times, "is basically the New Testament's description of the period of time between Jesus' ascension into heaven and His second coming from heaven." -David Platt, Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus*

What can we expect will happen during these days (verse 1)?



Those who depart from the true faith will be led astray by whom? Note both the description of the spirits and the people behind these false teachings (verses 1-2).

Spirits:

People:

How can we as believers discern which teaching (and the spirit behind the teaching) is true and which is false? Read 1 John 4:1-6.

What does it look like to have a “seared conscience” - a conscience that has become numb to what is right and wrong? Read Isaiah 5:20-25 and note the characteristics and results that you find.

What did these particular false prophets in Ephesus teach (1 Timothy 4:3)?

They forbade \_\_\_\_\_

They required abstinence from \_\_\_\_\_

What should our attitude be toward marriage (see also Hebrews 13:4)?

What does Paul teach us here in 1 Timothy 4:3 about what our attitude toward food should be?

**APPLICATION**

We see in verses 4-5 that “everything created by God is good” and “made holy” by God’s Word and prayer. Read Genesis 1:31 and James 1:16-17. Are you thankful for the good gifts that God has provided for you (food, shelter, family, His presence...), or like Eve in Genesis 2, have you grown discontent with God’s abundant provision? What needs to change so that you can receive God’s good gifts today with thankfulness?

**FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

Whether or not believers were required to abstain from certain foods was a major point of debate in the first century church. In today’s passage we see that Paul believed it was wrong to require abstinence from certain foods. But was abstinence from certain foods permitted by Paul? Why or why not? Read Romans 14:5-23, 1 Corinthians 8:4-13 and Colossians 2:16-23 and note what you learn about this topic from the New Testament.

*Day Three***READ 1 TIMOTHY 4, FOCUSING ON VERSES 6-11 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

Timothy is instructed to “put these things before the brothers” and to “command and teach these things.” What “things”? This is a reference back to all that Paul has been saying to Timothy thus far in the letter. Imagine that this letter was written to you, and that you are the one responsible to teach it. How well do you know your “curriculum?” Review 1 Timothy 1-4 and note below the major points that Paul has taught Timothy. Who in your life should you be teaching (Colossians 3:16-17)?



Look back at verse 6. What kind of servant is Timothy if he follows Paul's instructions? Whose servant is he? Fill in the blanks.

A \_\_\_\_\_ servant of \_\_\_\_\_

### APPLICATION

What is something that you have learned through this study that you can pass on to a friend, co-worker, child, or other family member, speaking the truth in love with all gentleness and respect?

## *Day Four*

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**READ 1 TIMOTHY 4, FOCUSING ON VERSES 6-10 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

According to this passage (especially verses 6-8), what things would Paul have Timothy to pursue? What things would he have him to avoid?

Pursue

Avoid

How would Paul have Timothy to pursue these things? What action words does he use to describe the effort involved (verses 6-10)?

Why does the pursuit of godliness have more value than bodily training (verse 8)?

Paul gives another reason, in verse 10, why we are to use effort in our pursuit of godliness. What is that reason? Read also 2 Peter 3:11-13.

What do we learn about God in verse 10?

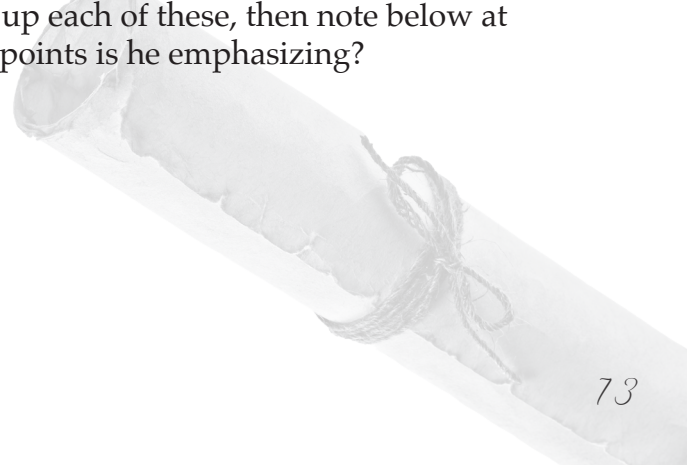
Reread verse 9. Paul used this phrase in 1:15 and 3:1 as well, and you will see it again in the letters to Timothy and Titus (2 Timothy 2:11 and Titus 3:8). Write the statement below in your own words.

### **APPLICATION**

Paul notes that the pursuit of godliness (which can be defined as “reverence for and conformity to God’s character”) is of greater value than bodily training. As you look at your life, how you spend your time and money and energy, do you have these priorities in their proper places? What changes can you make to train, toil, and strive after godliness?

### **FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

We noted Paul’s repeated use of the phrase that we see in verse 9. Paul used this phrase in 1 Timothy 1:15, 3:1, 4:9, 2 Timothy 2:11 and Titus 3:8. Look up each of these, then note below at what key places in these letters he has used it. What key points is he emphasizing?



## Day Five

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**READ 1 TIMOTHY 4, FOCUSING ON VERSES 11-16 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

Although Timothy was apparently younger, Paul instructs him to set an example for the other believers in what ways (verse 12)?

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What three ministries of the Scriptures was Timothy to devote himself to (verse 13)? Why are all three of these important for believers' growth in godliness?

*Exhortation is the process of making a strong urge or appeal for the purpose of spurring others on to action*

How did Timothy receive his spiritual gift according to verse 14? See also 2 Timothy 1:6.

What did Paul expect Timothy to do regarding his spiritual gift(s) (verses 14-16)?



Look back over chapter 4. Contrast below what those who had left the faith (verses 1-3) had devoted themselves to versus what Timothy is instructed to devote himself to (especially in verses 6-7 and 12-16).

Those Who Left the Faith

Timothy

Paul encourages Timothy to “persist” in both his godly conduct and his teaching so as to “save both yourself and your hearers” (verse 16). We have already seen that we are “saved” by faith in Christ, not works. What might Paul be referring to, then, about how Timothy can “save”:

Himself? Read Philippians 2:12-13, 3:9-16 and Colossians 1:21-23

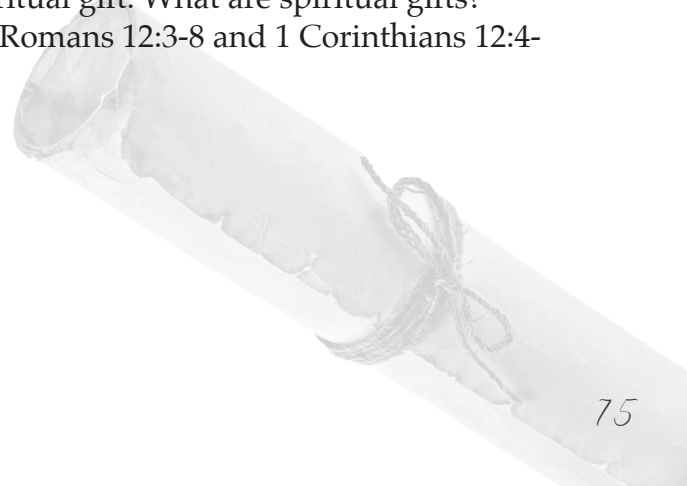
His hearers? Read 2 Corinthians 2:14-17 and 5:18-6:1.

### APPLICATION

Look back at the list you made in today’s first question. Think about what a person’s life and witness would look like if one of those areas was not exemplary. What would they look like without right speech, or without right conduct, or without faith, etc. Which area are you most lacking? Pray that the Lord would help you to grow in this area.

### FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)

Paul instructs Timothy in this passage to develop his spiritual gift. What are spiritual gifts? Where do they come from? What is their purpose? Read Romans 12:3-8 and 1 Corinthians 12:4-13 and note what you learn below.



## *For Personal Reflection*

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What did you learn about God this week (see Appendix 1 for a list of God's attributes)?

Write down any additional thoughts or questions you have. Then, pray about what you've learned.

Lecture Notes



## Group Time

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### WARM UP QUESTION

We see in chapter 4 that “bodily training is of some value.” Have you ever trained for a race or for a sport? Or did you train as a musician or for a job? What is the value of training?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CHOOSE SEVERAL)

Paul notes in verses 1-2 the connection between false teachers and the deceitful spirits/demons behind their message. How does this fact relate to what we see in Ephesians 6:11-12?

What were the false prophets in Ephesus teaching (verse 3)? How did this teaching go against the truth of God (verse 4-5)? How do we recognize and avoid false teaching today?

Thankfulness is a key component in our relationship with God (Psalm 100:4, Philippians 4:6, and Colossians 2:6-7). What are some things that distract or discourage us from giving God thanks regularly? How can we battle discontentedness?

How do we train ourselves for godliness (verse 7)? Read 2 Peter 1:3-8 for more information on this.

What plans have you (or should you) put in place to prioritize the pursuit of the spiritual (godliness) over physical demands on your time, money and energy?

Look back at verse 12. What would a person’s life and witness look like if one of these areas was not exemplary? What would they look like without right speech, or without right conduct, or without faith, etc? In which area do you need to grow most?

What three ministries of the Scriptures was Timothy to devote himself to (verse 13)? Why are all three of these important for believers’ growth in godliness?

Based on what you’ve learned this week about spiritual gifts, does their power or effectiveness come from God or from your effort or both? Back your answers up with scripture.

Look at the list of spiritual gifts in Romans 12:6-8. Pick a few of these gifts and discuss what you would need to do to develop or show progress in relation to that gift.

How do the priorities that we see in this chapter differ from the world’s priorities? Is it possible to prioritize both God’s kingdom and man’s? Or do we have to choose?



# LESSON SEVEN

*1 Timothy 5*

In chapter 5, we are allowed a glimpse into the familial care, encouragement and discipline of the early church, which should also characterize churches today. Paul instructs Timothy regarding the right and wrong way to deal with sin in the church, especially with elders. He also discusses practical financial matters such as the proper care of widows and the importance of financial support for church elders. It is this practical love and care for one another that will give the church credibility in a community and draw others to Christ.

## Day One

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### FOR REVIEW (1 TIMOTHY 4)

What did you learn last week about what it means to “train yourself for godliness”? What will this training require of you? What will be the rewards?

**LISTEN TO OR READ ALL OF 1 TIMOTHY (CHAPTERS 1-6). WHILE READING OR LISTENING TO THESE CHAPTERS, USE THE PRINTED COPY IN THE BACK OF THE GUIDE TO CIRCLE EVERY OCCURRENCE OF THE WORDS “TEACH,” “TEACHER” AND “TEACHING.”**

## Day Two

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### READ 1 TIMOTHY 5, FOCUSING ON VERSES 1-2 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

Looking back to chapter 3:15, who is the church called to be? And what is the church supposed to do?

Be:

Do:

Read Mark 3:31-35. Who does Jesus identify as his true family?

\_\_\_\_\_ his parents

\_\_\_\_\_ the crowd around him

\_\_\_\_\_ his brothers

\_\_\_\_\_ those who do the will of God

Who then ought to be our family? Why? Read Ephesians 2:13-19.

How was Timothy to treat the other members in “the household of God”? What were they to be to him? Read verses 1-2.

“exhort older men as...”

\_\_\_\_\_

“encourage older women as...”

\_\_\_\_\_

“treat younger men as...”

\_\_\_\_\_

“treat younger women as...”

\_\_\_\_\_

How would following these instructions set the church apart from the world? See also Romans 12:10 and 1 Peter 1:22.

Read John 13:34-35. What did Jesus command His disciples to do? What will be the result?

Command:

Result:

### APPLICATION

Are there certain groups of people that are harder for you to love than others? How can you seek to encourage Christian brothers and sisters of all ages with the respect, love and purity described in these verses?



### FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)

Psalm 71 is the chronicle of God's faithfulness throughout the psalmist's life, from youth to old age. In it the psalmist declares his continued trust in God and desire to share the truth of God's faithfulness to younger generations. Read Psalm 71 and journal about the challenges and responsibilities of serving God in one's youth as well as in older seasons of life.

## *Day Three*

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### READ 1 TIMOTHY 5, FOCUSING ON VERSES 3-10 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

Read Acts 6:1-3. What was the problem in this passage that the early church faced? How did they solve the problem?

From the church's birth, caring for widows has been a priority. Yet Paul does not call the church to "enroll" every widow. Who is first responsible to care for a widow (verse 4)?

\_\_\_\_\_ her children

\_\_\_\_\_ her pastor

\_\_\_\_\_ her neighbors

\_\_\_\_\_ her church

\_\_\_\_\_ her grandchildren

According to verses 4, 8, and 16, why is it important for a widow's family to care for her? What are the benefits for a family? What are the benefits for the church?



If a believer refuses to care for his or her relatives, Paul says this person has done what in regard to the faith (verse 8)? Why would Paul say that they are acting “worse than an unbeliever”?

What should the connection be between our belief in God’s love for us and the way we treat others? Read 1 John 3:16-18.

What requirements did Paul have for widows before they were to be enrolled for help from the Ephesian church. Read especially verses 5 and 9-10.

Read Luke 2:36-38. How is Anna an example of a “true widow”? What was her reputation?

*“Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.” - James 1:27*

#### **APPLICATION**

Is there a widow in your family or a “true” widow in the church who needs to be cared for? How can you help? Write any names and ideas below that come to mind.



**FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

In Eastern hospitality, washing a guest's feet was a service extended to visitors in any household. Sometimes in the Bible, washing a person's feet is not only a physical deed, but a deed revealing a person's spirit. Here are several passages containing the washing of feet. Read them, record the motive of the washer, and the purpose for the washing.

| Washer(s)       | Purpose |
|-----------------|---------|
| Exodus 40:30-32 |         |
| John 12:1-8     |         |
| John 13:1-16    |         |
| 1 Timothy 5:10  |         |

## *Day Four*

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**READ 1 TIMOTHY 5, FOCUSING ON VERSES 11-16 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

Compare and contrast the actions of "true" or "real" widows in verses 9-10, with the actions of "younger" widows in verses 11-13.

True Widows

Younger Widows



Looking back at today's passage and 1 Timothy 3:15, how would the actions of the idle widows hurt the church's mission?

Do all younger widows have to remarry? Read 1 Corinthians 7:8-9 for Paul's fuller instruction on marriage to the unmarried and widows. In general, when should widows remarry rather than choosing to stay single?

What is Paul's advice to the younger widows (verse 14)? Why?

Who is the adversary of the younger widows and all Christians? What does he desire to accomplish (verses 14-15)? Also read 1 Peter 5:8.

Look back over verses 1-16. How would you summarize the expectations that God has for each of the following groups of people?

"True" Widows (verses 5, 9-10)

Younger Widows (verses 11-14)

Families, especially in regard to widows (verses 4, 8, 16)

The Church or church leaders (verses 1-3, 7, 9, 11, 16)

**APPLICATION**

In verse 13, Paul lists possible traps the young widows in Ephesus could fall into. These are vices for us to look out for as well. Read verse 13 again then identify which of these sins you struggle with the most and what steps you can take to protect yourself from our adversary. Are there any Bible verses that speak to your struggle? Write one below and begin to memorize it.

**FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

Read Titus 2:3-5. How do Paul's instructions to young widows compare with his instructions for what younger women were to be taught in the Titus passage? Who was responsible for teaching and modeling these things for the young women? What ramifications do these passages have for your own life and responsibilities?

*Day Five***READ 1 TIMOTHY 5, FOCUSING ON VERSES 17-24 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

According to verse 17, who is worthy of double honor?

Elders who \_\_\_\_\_

Especially those who...

\_\_\_\_\_ preach

\_\_\_\_\_ sing

\_\_\_\_\_ teach

\_\_\_\_\_ stack chairs

\_\_\_\_\_ labor

\_\_\_\_\_ write blogs

In verse 18 Paul uses two verses from the Old Testament law to illustrate what a church's treatment of and care for their elders/pastors ought to be. Answer the following questions.

Read Deuteronomy 25:4. An ox is an animal used for long periods of labor. If it is muzzled, what will it have difficulty doing throughout its time of toil?

If a pastor labors according to verse 17 and is not provided for financially, what will he have difficulty doing?

Read Leviticus 19:13. If a laborer's income is delayed, what difficulties will arise?

If a pastor fails to receive his wages in a timely manner, what difficulties will arise?

The language of verses 19-21 is that of a courtroom. How is a charge of sin to be brought against an elder/pastor? Read verses 19-20 and answer the following questions.

How many witnesses?

Under what circumstances should a public rebuke be given?

What is the purpose of a public rebuke?

In verse 21, Timothy is strongly charged to uphold these instructions without what? Why is this so important? Read Romans 2:11 and James 2:8-9.

Why is patiently waiting important while “recognizing those set apart for ministry,” “ordination,” or the “laying on of hands?” What does this time of waiting allow for? Read verses 22, 24-25.

*\*Note also the connection with 1 Timothy 3:6, 10.*

In chapter 3:15, Paul declares that the church is to protect the gospel and lift it high. How could the impurity of an elder/pastor hinder the gospel?

#### **APPLICATION**

Throughout this chapter, and book, the weight and importance of leaders in the church has been clear. Have you prayed for your pastors and church leaders? Have you recently encouraged a pastor?

#### **FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

Paul emphasized purity in Timothy’s life and ministry (1:5, 4:12; 5:2, 22). While this word is used to describe sexually purity, it also describes innocence and integrity of heart. Christians are to be pure in action and thought. Use these passages as a reminder of what purity in body and soul involves. Beside each passage, write a truth you learn about purity.

Psalm 24:3-4

Psalm 51:1-10



2 Corinthians 7:1

1 Peter 1:22-23

Finish your study time with this prayer from an early church father:

Grant us purity of heart  
and strength of purpose,  
that no selfish passion  
may hinder us from knowing Your will,  
and no weakness  
hinder us from doing it;  
but that in Your light  
we may see light,  
and in Your service  
find our perfect freedom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

– Augustine, Bishop of Hippo (354-430)



## *For Personal Reflection*

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What did you learn about God this week (see Appendix 1 for a list of God's attributes)?

Write down any additional thoughts or questions you have. Then, pray about what you've learned.



Lecture Notes

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. In the bottom-left corner, there is a faint, light gray illustration of a rolled-up scroll or document, tied with a string. The overall appearance is that of a clean, unused piece of stationery or a notebook page.

## *Group Time*

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### **WARM UP QUESTION**

If you, a family member, or friend ever received a special award or have been honored some way, share that experience.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CHOOSE SEVERAL)**

How would following the instructions in verses 1 and 2 set the church apart from the world? See also Romans 12:10 and 1 Peter 1:22.

Why would it be important for older and younger generations to interact with one another in the church? What are some challenges to this?

What are some practical ways as a church that we can better foster family-like relationships with one another? Why is this important both for our Christian brothers and sisters and also for the watching world?

Can you think of any godly widows or older women in your life that you admire most? What have you learned from them?

Are young widows today vulnerable to the temptations in Paul and Timothy's day? Are there temptations for younger widows that are specific to modern times?

How ought caring for widows (or others in the church who are vulnerable) look different in the church than how the world interacts with them? Is it easier or harder to care for widows and people with special needs in the modern world? Why?

What can we learn from 1 Timothy 5 and Titus 2:3-5 about the priorities and godly expectations of all women? What are some things in your life that threaten to pull you away from these responsibilities?

Read Matthew 18:15-17. Based on these verses and 1 Timothy 5:19-21, would you say that an elder's sin is to be treated in a more public way than a church member's? Or should the sin of every Christian be treated in the same way?

Is "being worthy of double honor" a reference to a pastor's salary or the respect that ought to be given to him? Or is it both?

Why is it important that an elder/pastor be protected from any random accusation brought against him? What would you say to someone who wanted to criticize a church leader to you or on social media? How could this passage help?

# LESSON EIGHT

*1 Timothy 6*

In Paul's final words of his first epistle to Timothy, he warns again (and again) against the "different doctrine" and "irreverent babble" of those who have strayed from the truth. Rather than pursuing material gain, Paul urges Timothy to pursue the gain of godliness. In rapid succession Timothy is charged to "flee these things...pursue righteousness...fight the good fight...take hold of eternal life...and keep the commandment unstained..." Why invest this much effort in spiritual things? Because all honor belongs to our Sovereign God and to His Son who is coming again.

## Day One

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### FOR REVIEW (1 TIMOTHY 5)

What were some of the basic instructions that Paul gave in chapter 5 regarding widows? Why were these instructions important for the church then and now?

**LISTEN TO OR READ ALL OF 1 TIMOTHY (CHAPTERS 1-6). WHILE READING OR LISTENING TO THESE CHAPTERS, USE THE PRINTED COPY IN THE BACK OF THE GUIDE TO DRAW PARENTHESES AROUND EVERY OCCURRENCE OF THE WORD "FAITH."**

## Day Two

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### READ 1 TIMOTHY 6, FOCUSING ON VERSES 1-5 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

What attitude did Paul instruct the slaves (or bondservants) to have toward their masters, whether they were unbelievers or believers? Why (verses 1-2)?

Attitude

Why

Paul gives more instructions regarding false teachers in verses 3-5. What words does he use to describe right teaching? What words does he use to describe false teaching?

Right Teaching

False Teaching



What are the fruits or products of false teaching (verses 4-5)?

Paul describes false teachers and those who follow them as “depraved in mind and deprived of the truth” (verse 5). Look up the word “depraved” and write the definition below.

Read Titus 1:15 and Ephesians 4:17-19. Based on these verses and 1 Timothy 6:5, what are the causes of a depraved mind?

These false teachers imagined that pursuing their version of godliness would lead to gain. What kind of gain? Check out verses 5 and 9 as well as Titus 1:11 and 2 Peter 2:3.

#### **APPLICATION**

Do you crave controversy, division, or drama? Or are you a peacemaker? Read Romans 14:19. In what relationship(s) do you need to pursue peace? How can you seek to encourage and build someone up in the truth today?

### FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)

Does the Bible encourage slavery? Before you study more about this subject, first know that slavery, as seen in the Bible, was very different from the type of chattel slavery found in North America in the 17th through 19th centuries.

*“Slaves were generally permitted to work for pay and to save enough to buy their freedom” (ESV Study Bible). Also, “Roman slavery of the New Testament period was not based on ethnicity or skin color like the African slave trade. The New Testament vehemently opposes any form of ethnic or racial superiority” (Platt, Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus).*

Explore the following:

Equality of all in salvation: Galatians 3:28

Equal accountability of slaves and masters to God: Colossians 3:22-4:1

Prohibition against abuse of slaves: Exodus 21:26-27

Prohibition against kidnapping and trafficking of people/slaves: Exodus 21:16, 1 Timothy 1:9-10

Temporary nature of slavery: Deuteronomy 15:12-15

## Day Three

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**READ 1 TIMOTHY 6, FOCUSING ON VERSES 3-10 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

Playing off of the wording from verse 5, Paul explains that godliness is not a means to material gain, but that godliness itself IS great gain, when accompanied by what virtue (verse 6)?

What are the reasons that Paul gives for why we should be content (verse 7)?



With what physical provisions should we be content (verse 8)?

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Should we then be anxious about acquiring these two provisions? Why or why not? Read Matthew 6:25-33.

What is the source or secret to having this contentment? Read Philippians 4:11-13 and Hebrews 13:5.

The opposite of contentment is the desire for material wealth. What does Paul warn are the consequences of this desire (verses 9-10)?

Read Jesus' parable of the sower in Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23. Which of the four seeds represents what we have learned in 1 Timothy 6:9-10?

- A. Seed on the path
- B. Seed on the rocky ground
- C. Seed among the thorns
- D. Seed on the good soil



Draw below a “money tree” based on what you learn in verses 9-10. Label the root, according to what Paul says in verse 10. Label the tree’s fruit (or consequences that you listed in the last question).

### **APPLICATION**

Paul warns against two cravings in this chapter: the craving for controversy (verse 4) and the craving for money (verse 10). What do you crave or desire most? What are some antidotes for wrong cravings? See for example Proverbs 21:25-26 and James 4:2-10.

### **FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

A great Old Testament example of evil cravings is found in Numbers 11. Read this chapter as well as the psalmist’s reflections on this event in Psalm 78:17-31. Note below what you learn about the following:

How God provided for the people before their cravings:

What the people craved and what they did or said as a result of this craving:

How God provided for them after their cravings:

What God SAID in reaction to the people’s cravings:



What God DID in reaction to the people's cravings:

## Day Four

---

**READ 1 TIMOTHY 6, FOCUSING ON VERSES 11-16 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

What title or identity does Paul attribute to Timothy in verse 11? How does this identity relate to what Paul is asking Timothy to do in today's passage?

What things does Paul tell Timothy to "flee" ("these things" refers back to verses 3-10)? What things does Paul tell Timothy to "pursue" (verse 11)?

Flee

Pursue\*

*\*Look up any word in the second column if you don't know its meaning.*

Notice the command words that Paul uses in this passage. Fill in the blanks below.

\_\_\_\_\_ these things (verse 11)

\_\_\_\_\_ righteousness... (verse 11)

\_\_\_\_\_ the good fight... (verse 12)

\_\_\_\_\_ of the eternal life... (verse 12)

\_\_\_\_\_ the commandment... (verse 14)

Notice also the repeated courtroom language. Underline or note these words: confession, witnesses, charge, and testimony. What was the “good confession” that Timothy made in the presence of many witnesses (verse 12)? See also Romans 10:9-10 and 2 Corinthians 9:13.

Paul charges Timothy to “keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach” in verses 13-14. What commandment might Paul be referring to? See 1 John 3:23.

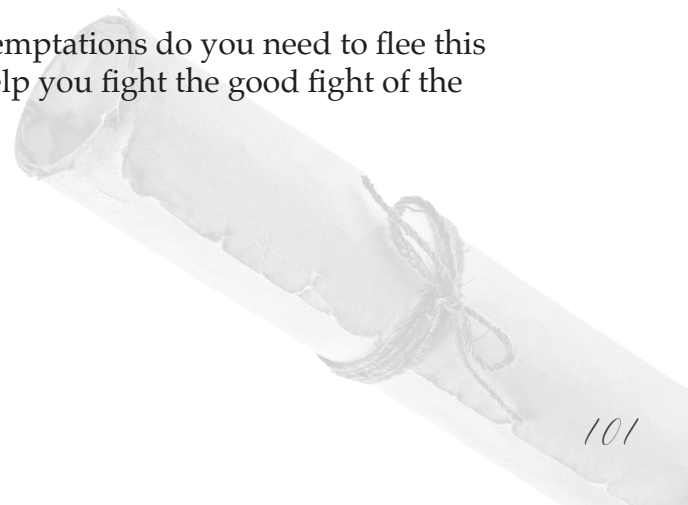
Paul gives this charge to Timothy in the presence of two witnesses: God the Father and Jesus, His Son. What two events does he reference in relation to Christ (verses 13 and 14)?

We see many attributes of God in verses 15-16, as Paul grounds his commands to Timothy in God’s very nature. Match the following attributes of God with its correct meaning or description from the passage. Look in a dictionary for any words you don’t know.

|              |                                     |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Creator      | Dwells in unapproachable light      |
| Sovereign    | No one has ever seen or can see Him |
| Immortal     | Gives life to all things            |
| Transcendent | Lives forever                       |
| Invisible    | King of kings and Lord of lords     |

#### APPLICATION

Read verse 11 again, then read Galatians 5:16-24. What temptations do you need to flee this week? What do you need to pursue instead? Who can help you fight the good fight of the faith?



### FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)

In verse 13, Paul references Jesus' testimony before Pontius Pilate. What "good confession" did Christ make in this exchange with Pilate? Read John 18:33-38 and write below what Jesus reveals about Himself to Pilate.

## Day Five

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### READ 1 TIMOTHY 6, FOCUSING ON VERSES 17-21 TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

What instructions does Paul have for those who have material wealth? Where should they place their hope? Where should they not place their hope (verse 17)?

According to verses 17 and 18, what should they do with their material wealth?

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19, Matthew 6:19-21 and James 5:1-6. As you read, contrast below the attitudes/actions and consequences of those who trust in riches versus those who trust in God:

Those Who Trust in Riches

Those Who Trust in God

Attitudes/  
Actions

Consequences

What repeated words do you see in verses 12 and 19? What do you think these words mean?

In Paul's final words to Timothy in this letter, he again returns to the subject of false teachers. Read 1 Timothy 1:3-7, 19; 4:1-2, 7; 6:3-10 and 20-21. What repeated words and themes do you notice in these warnings against false teachers?

Timothy is also told again to do what with what Paul has entrusted to him (verse 20)? What was it that Paul entrusted to him? See 1 Timothy 1:15-19.

#### **APPLICATION**

Maybe you don't think of yourself as "rich," but "If you make \$25,000 per year, you are in the top 10 percent of the world's wealthiest people" (Platt, Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus). When you look at your bank statement, do you find that you are "generous and ready to share"? Or are you more prone toward "luxury and self-indulgence"? What spending habits need to change to put you in a place that you are more able to share?

#### **FOR FURTHER STUDY (OPTIONAL)**

Read Psalm 49 and note below the reasons why material wealth is not to be trusted. Where is the psalmist's hope?



## *For Personal Reflection*

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What did you learn about God this week (see Appendix 1 for a list of God's attributes)?

Write down any additional thoughts or questions you have. Then, pray about what you've learned.



Lecture Notes



## *Group Time*

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### **WARM UP QUESTION**

Tell us about your strangest or most intense food craving (maybe from when you were pregnant or when you were cooped up during stay-at-home orders).

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CHOOSE SEVERAL)**

What can we learn about honoring and respecting those in authority over us from verses 1-2?

Do you tend to crave controversy and drama or run from it? What are some healthy and unhealthy ways to respond to conflict?

Paul warns against two cravings in this chapter: the craving for controversy (verse 4) and the craving for money (verse 10). What are some other wrong cravings that people have? What are some antidotes for wrong cravings? Read Proverbs 21:25-26 and James 4:2-10.

The opposite of craving is contentment. What is the secret of contentment? Read and discuss Philippians 4:11-13 and Hebrews 13:5.

What are some hindrances to your contentment in Christ?

We read that the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. What are some examples (from verses 9-10 and James 5:1-6) of the fruits or consequences of pursuing wealth?

We saw several action words in verses 11-12, such as “flee,” “pursue,” “fight,” and “take hold.” How does Paul’s view of this “good fight of faith” differ from the world’s attitude toward one’s faith?

Of all the attributes of God that we see in this chapter, which one stands out to you and why?

When you look at your bank statement, do you find that it is easy or difficult to be “generous and ready to share”? What are some practical ways we can be more selfless rather than selfish in our spending?

Paul uses the phrase “take hold of eternal life (or that which is truly life)” in verses 12 and 19. What do we need to let go of to take hold of eternal life?

What have you learned in 1 Timothy about what causes people to swerve or wander from the faith? How can we help one another stand firm in the faith?





# APPENDIX 1



Navigator  
Discipleship  
Tool

God is...

## 30 DAYS OF PRAYING the Names and Attributes of God

Though God is infinitely far above our ability to fully understand, through the Scriptures He tells us truths about Himself so that we can know Him, and be drawn to worship Him. Take a description of God and meditate on it for a day.

### ① JEHOVAH

The name of the independent, self-complete being—"I AM WHO I AM"—only belongs to Jehovah God. Our proper response to Him is to fall down in fear and awe of the One who possesses all authority. *Exodus 3:13-15*

### ② JEHOVAH-M'KADDESH

This name means "the God who sanctifies." A God separate from all that is evil requires that the people who follow Him be cleansed from all evil. *Leviticus 20:7,8*

### ③ INFINITE

God is beyond measurement—we cannot define Him by size or amount. He has no beginning, no end, and no limits. *Romans 11:33*

### ④ OMNIPOTENT

God is all-powerful. He spoke all things into being, and all things—every cell, every breath, every thought—are sustained by Him. Nothing is too difficult for Him. *Jeremiah 32:17,18, 26,27*

### ⑤ GOOD

God is the embodiment of perfect goodness, and is kind, benevolent, and full of good will toward all creation. *Psalms 119:65-72*

### ⑥ LOVE

God's love is so great that He gave His only Son to bring us into fellowship with Him. His love encompasses the world, and embraces each of us personally and intimately. *1 John 4:7-10*

### ⑦ JEHOVAH-JIREH

"The God who provides." Just as He provided yesterday, He will provide today and tomorrow. He grants deliverance from sin, the oil of joy for the ashes of sorrow, and eternal citizenship in His Kingdom for all those adopted into His household. *Genesis 22:9-14*

### ⑧ JEHOVAH-SHALOM

"The God of peace." We are meant to know the fullness of God's perfect peace, His "shalom." God's peace surpasses understanding and sustains us through difficult times. It's the product of fully being what we were created to be. *Judges 6:16-24*

### ⑨ IMMUTABLE

All that God is, He has always been. All that He has been and is, He will ever be. He is ever perfect and unchanging. *Psalms 102:25-28*

### ⑩ TRANSCENDENT

God is not simply the highest in an order of beings (this would be to grant Him eminence). He is transcendent—existing beyond and above the created universe. *Psalms 113:4,5*

### ⑪ JUST

God is righteous and holy, fair and equitable in all things. We can trust Him to always do what is right. *Psalms 75:1-7*

### ⑫ HOLY

God's holiness is not a better version of the best we know. God is utterly and supremely untainted. His holiness stands apart—unique and incomprehensible. *Revelation 4:8-11*



**THIS TOOL IS MEANT TO BE SHARED.** To download a copy visit [navlink.org/names-of-God](http://navlink.org/names-of-God)  
Sources: *The Knowledge of the Holy*, by A.W. Tozer; *Names of God*, by Nathan Stone; and *God of Glory*, by Kenneth Landon.



## Navigator Discipleship Tool

# God is...

### ⑬ JEHOVAH-ROPHE

"Jehovah heals." God alone provides the remedy for mankind's brokenness through His son, Jesus Christ. The Gospel is the physical, moral, and spiritual remedy for all people. *Exodus 15:22-26*

### ⑭ SELF-SUFFICIENT

All things are God's to give, and all that is given is given by Him. He can receive nothing that He has not already given us. *Acts 17:24-28*

### ⑮ OMNISCIENT

God is all-knowing. God's knowledge encompasses every possible thing that exists, has ever existed, or will ever exist. Nothing is a mystery to Him. *Psalms 139:1-6*

### ⑯ OMNIPRESENT

God is everywhere, in and around everything, close to everyone. "Do not I fill heaven and earth?" declares the Lord." *Psalms 139:7-12*

### ⑰ MERCIFUL

God's merciful compassion is infinite and inexhaustible. Through Christ, He took the judgment that was rightfully ours and placed it on His own shoulders. He waits and works now for all people to turn to Him and to live under His justification. *Deuteronomy 4:29-31*

### ⑱ SOVEREIGN

God presides over every event, great or small, and He is in control of our lives. To be sovereign, He must be all-knowing and all-powerful, and by His sovereignty He rules His entire creation. *1 Chronicles 29:11-13*

### ⑲ JEHOVAH-NISSI

"God our banner." Under His banner we go from triumph to triumph and say, "Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:57). *Exodus 17:8-15*

### ⑳ WISE

All God's acts are accomplished through His infinite wisdom. He always acts for our good, which is to conform us to Christ. Our good and His glory are inextricably bound together. *Proverbs 3:19,20*

### ㉑ FAITHFUL

Out of His faithfulness God honors His covenants and fulfills His promises. Our hope for the future rests upon God's faithfulness. *Psalms 89:1-8*

### ㉒ WRATHFUL

Unlike human anger, God's wrath is never capricious, self-indulgent, or irritable. It is the right and necessary reaction to objective moral evil. *Nahum 1:2-8*

### ㉓ FULL OF GRACE

Grace is God's good pleasure that moves Him to grant merit where it is undeserved and to forgive debt that cannot be repaid. *Ephesians 1:5-8*

### ㉔ OUR COMFORTER

Jesus called the Holy Spirit the "Comforter," and the apostle Paul writes that the Lord is "the God of all comfort." *2 Corinthians 1:3,4*

### ㉕ EL-SHADDAI

"God Almighty," the God who is all-sufficient and all-bountiful, the source of all blessings. *Genesis 49:22-26*

### ㉖ FATHER

Jesus taught us to pray, "Our Father" (Matthew 6:9), and the Spirit of God taught us to cry, "Abba, Father," an intimate Aramaic term similar to "Daddy." The Creator of the universe cares for each one of us. *Romans 8:15-17*

### ㉗ THE CHURCH'S HEAD

God the Son, Jesus, is the head of the Church. As the head, the part of the body that sees, hears, thinks, and decides, He gives the orders that the rest of the body lives by. *Ephesians 1:22,23*

### ㉘ OUR INTERCESSOR

Knowing our temptations, God the Son intercedes for us. He opens the doors for us to boldly ask God the Father for mercy. Thus, God is both the initiation and conclusion of true prayer. *Hebrews 4:14-16*

### ㉙ ADONAI

"Master" or "Lord." All God's people ought to acknowledge themselves as His servants, with His right to reign as Lord of our lives. *2 Samuel 7:18-20*

### ㉚ ELOHIM

"Strength" or "Power": He is transcendent, mighty and strong. This name displays His supreme power, sovereignty, and faithfulness in His covenant relationship with us. *Genesis 17:7,8*

# APPENDIX 2

## *Text of 1 Timothy*

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**1** Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

2 To Timothy, my true child in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, 4 nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith. 5 The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. 6 Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, 7 desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

8 Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, 9 understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, 10 the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, 11 in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

12 I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, 13 though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, 14 and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 15 The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. 16 But I

received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. 17 To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

18 This charge I entrust to you, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies previously made about you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, 19 holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting this, some have made shipwreck of their faith, 20 among whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.

**2** First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, 2 for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. 3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. 7 For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

8 I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; 9 likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, 10 but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. 11 Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. 12 I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve; 14 and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. 15 Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

**3** The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. 2 Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3 not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. 4 He must manage

his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, 5 for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? 6 He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. 7 Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

8 Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. 9 They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. 10 And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. 11 Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. 12 Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. 13 For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

14 I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, 15 if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth. 16 Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

He was manifested in the flesh,  
vindicated by the Spirit,  
seen by angels,  
proclaimed among the nations,  
believed on in the world,  
taken up in glory.

**4** Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, 2 through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, 3 who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. 4 For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, 5 for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer.



6 If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed. 7 Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; 8 for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. 9 The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance. 10 For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe.

11 Command and teach these things. 12 Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. 13 Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching. 14 Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. 15 Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress. 16 Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.

**5** Do not rebuke an older man but encourage him as you would a father, younger men as brothers, 2 older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity. 3 Honor widows who are truly widows. 4 But if a widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show godliness to their own household and to make some return to their parents, for this is pleasing in the sight of God. 5 She who is truly a widow, left all alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day, 6 but she who is self-indulgent is dead even while she lives. 7 Command these things as well, so that they may be without reproach. 8 But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

9 Let a widow be enrolled if she is not less than sixty years of age, having been the wife of one husband, 10 and having a reputation for good works: if she has brought up children, has shown hospitality, has washed the feet of the saints, has cared for the afflicted, and has devoted herself to every good work. 11 But refuse to enroll younger widows, for when their passions draw them away from Christ, they desire to marry 12 and so incur condemnation for having abandoned their former faith. 13 Besides that, they

learn to be idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not. 14 So I would have younger widows marry, bear children, manage their households, and give the adversary no occasion for slander. 15 For some have already strayed after Satan. 16 If any believing woman has relatives who are widows, let her care for them. Let the church not be burdened, so that it may care for those who are truly widows.

17 Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching. 18 For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain," and, "The laborer deserves his wages." 19 Do not admit a charge against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses. 20 As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear. 21 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels I charge you to keep these rules without prejudging, doing nothing from partiality. 22 Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, nor take part in the sins of others; keep yourself pure. 23 (No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.) 24 The sins of some people are conspicuous, going before them to judgment, but the sins of others appear later. 25 So also good works are conspicuous, and even those that are not cannot remain hidden.

**6** Let all who are under a yoke as bondservants regard their own masters as worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and the teaching may not be reviled. 2 Those who have believing masters must not be disrespectful on the ground that they are brothers; rather they must serve all the better since those who benefit by their good service are believers and beloved.

Teach and urge these things. 3 If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, 4 he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, 5 and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain. 6 But godliness with contentment is great gain, 7 for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. 8 But if we have food and clothing, with these



we will be content. 9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

11 But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. 12 Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. 13 I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, 14 to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, 16 who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

17 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. 18 They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, 19 thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

20 O Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the irreverent babble and contradictions of what is falsely called “knowledge,” 21 for by professing it some have swerved from the faith.

Grace be with you.

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# APPENDIX 3

## *Memory Passage*

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**“SANCTIFY THEM IN THE TRUTH; YOUR WORD IS TRUTH.” (JOHN 17:17)**

*Hide God’s Word in your heart. Let’s memorize the following passage this semester:*

<sup>6</sup> If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed. <sup>7</sup> Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; <sup>8</sup> for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. <sup>9</sup> The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance. <sup>10</sup> For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe.

*- 1 Timothy 4:6-10*

# APPENDIX 4

## *Definitions*

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**UNDERSTANDING THE MEANING OF WORDS WILL ALWAYS HELP US BETTER UNDERSTAND THE SCRIPTURES. EVEN FAMILIAR WORDS OFTEN HAVE A DEEPER MEANING WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF GOD'S WORD. USE THE SPACE BELOW TO WRITE DOWN THE MEANING OF WORDS YOU CHOOSE TO LOOK UP ON YOUR OWN.**

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