



First Timothy 2:5 "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."

Course Text: First Timothy

1st Timothy is a letter from Paul to a young pastor he was mentoring. Paul talks to Timothy about dealing with various problems in the church, prays, asks for prayer, and mentions several specific things for all of us to do and not do, and for Timothy to teach and not teach. Paul also talks about the leadership role in the church, both in terms of the character of those who should have it, and specifically how leaders should behave themselves.

Timothy was Paul's right hand man. We find Timothy mentioned five times in Acts working with Paul, and besides the two epistles that are addressed to Timothy, he is mentioned in 8 of Paul's other epistles a total of 13 times. Paul sends Timothy on various missions and errands, and apparently Timothy assisted Paul in writing 2nd Corinthians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon and both letters to the Thessalonians.



Suggested methodology:

1. Let the students have a copy of the lesson well before the class meets. (Perhaps the previous meeting)
2. The students read the Bible book and answer the questions in this lesson before the group meets.
3. At the class meeting allow time for greetings and fellowship. (Save most of this for the end)
4. Take prayer requests (Try to keep it from becoming a competition to see who has the most or the worst.)
5. Pray (The idea here is to leave our troubles with God so we can give His word our attention with a clear mind.)
6. Discuss the questions on page 7. Let those who prefer to listen, listen. My answers, when provided, are just one opinion; you may have a better answer. It might be good to establish the norm that only those who have actually read the book should discuss it aloud.
7. Discuss whatever other questions people have on their mind about the First Timothy.
8. Close in prayer (It is best to call on others to pray, but try to get their permission ahead of time.)
9. Fellowship (Leave this as open ended as possible for the time and place you meet.)

Depending on the number of people, this class is expected to take about two hours.

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First Timothy Chapters 1 to 2

INTRODUCTION - Read Acts 16:1-5 and answer the following questions:

[A] Where did Paul meet Timothy? _____

[B] What nationality was Timothy's father? _____

Read Philippians 2:18-23 and answer this question:

[C] How does Paul characterize his relationship with Timothy? _____

Read 1 Thessalonians 3:1-8

[D] How does Paul characterize his relationship with Timothy? _____

CHAPTER 1 - Paul tells Timothy how to deal with some confused people in the church at Ephesus. The purpose of the law is discussed. Paul prays thanking God for his calling in life.

Read 1st Timothy chapter 1 and answer the following questions:

[1A] What is the goal of Paul's teaching or instructions? _____

[1B] On what three things is this goal built? _____

[1C] Who was the law not made for? _____

[1D] Why did Jesus Christ come into the world? _____

CHAPTER 2- Paul mentions some specific prayer requests. He asks that both men and women pray and talks about how he deals with women.

Read 1st Timothy chapter 2 and answer the following questions:

[2A] Who does God desire will come to the knowledge of the truth and be saved? _____

[2B] How many gods does Paul say there are? _____

[2C] Who does Paul say was deceived? _____

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



THE PURSUIT OF GOD and Mt EVEREST

You WILL NOT find yourself on the summit of Everest by climbing any mountain in Colorado. In the same way.. THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD and ONE WAY TO HEAVEN. It matters what you believe.
1 TIMOTHY 2:5, Ps 86:10, Is 46:9, and more

----- ANSWERS -----

First Timothy Chapters 1 to 2

[A] Where did Paul meet Timothy Lystra Acts 16:1

[B] What nationality was Timothy's father Greek Acts 16:2

[C] How does Paul characterize his relationship with Timothy? Father to son Phil 2:22

[D] How does Paul characterize his relationship with Timothy? Brother & fellow worker Phil 2:22

(See also these additional references to Timothy in the New Testament:

Acts 17:14-15, Acts 18:5, Acts 19:22, Acts 20:4, Romans 16:21, 1 Corinthians 4:17, 1 Corinthians 16:10, 2 Corinthians 1:1, 2 Corinthians 1:19, Philippians 1:1, Colossians 1:1, 1 Thessalonians 1:1, 2 Thessalonians 1:1, Philemon 1:1, Hebrews 13:23)

[1A] What is the goal of Paul's teaching or instructions? love 1Tm 1:5

[1B] On what three things is this goal built? Pure heart, good conscience, and sincere faith 1Tm 1:5

[1C] Who was the law not made for? A righteous person 1Tm 1:9

[1D] Why did Jesus Christ come into the world? To save sinners 1Tm 1:15

[2A] Who does God desire will come to the knowledge of the truth and be saved? Everyone 1Tm 2:4

[2B] How many gods does Paul say there are? One 1Tm 2:5

[2C] Who does Paul say was deceived? Eve, not Adam 1Tm 2:14



First Timothy Chapters 3 to 6

CHAPTER 3

Paul talks about the qualifications for leaders in the church. He mentions the purpose of his letter. Read 1st Timothy chapter 3 and answer the following questions:

- [3A] How many wives should a church leader have? _____
- [3B] What should a church leader do with his children? _____
- [3C] What does Paul call God's family? _____

CHAPTER 4

Paul briefly returns to the topic of false teachings from chapter one and relates it to his overall purpose in writing the letter. Paul encourages Timothy in his work and lists some specific things for Timothy to say and do in his role as a leader in the church.

Read 1st Timothy chapter 4 and answer the following questions:

- [4A] What are the two means of sanctification? _____
- [4B] In whom has Paul put his hope? _____
- [4C] What is Timothy to show himself to be? _____

CHAPTER 5

Paul gives Timothy instructions on dealing with those who are older than him, particularly widows. Then he talks about the entire church's treatment of older people in general.

Read 1st Timothy chapter 5 and answer the following questions:

- [5A] Who is supposed to take care the elderly church members? _____
- [5B] What was the age limit for widows to be put on "the list"? _____
- [5C] Paul says that some have turned aside to follow who? _____
- [5D] How many witnesses were required in order to bring an accusation against an elder? _____
- [5E] What does Paul say cannot be concealed? _____

CHAPTER 6

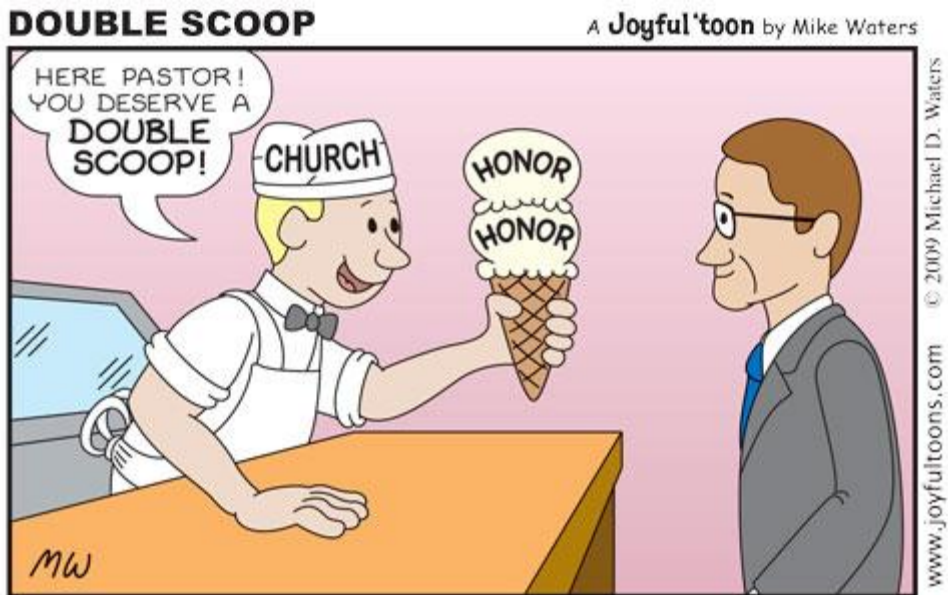
Paul talks about the employer/employee relationship. Paul exhorts Timothy to avoid argument just for the sake of argument. He discusses the means and value of contentment, and gives some specific exhortations concerning behavior.

Read 1st Timothy chapter 6 and answer the following questions:

- [6A] How are servants to behave towards their masters? _____
- [6B] What happens to people who want to get rich? _____
- [6C] How long are we to continue to obey God? _____
- [6D] What are we to be "rich" in? _____

----- ANSWERS -----

- [3A] How many wives should a church leader have? One, and only one 1Tm 3:2 & 12
- [3B] What should a church leader do with his children? Manage, or control, them well 1Tm 3:4 & 12
- [3C] What does Paul call God's family?
The church of the living God & the support of the truth 1Tm 3:15
- [4A] What are the two means of sanctification: The word of God and prayer 1Tm 4:4-5
- [4B] In whom has Paul put his hope? The living God 1Tm 4:10
- [4C] What is Timothy to show himself to be? A good example 1Tm 4:12
- [5A] Who is supposed to take care the elderly church members?
The church unless they have descendants to do it 1Tm 5:3-4, 8
- [5B] What was the age limit for widows to be put on "the list"? 60 years old 1Tm 5:9
- [5C] Paul says that some have turned aside to follow who? Satan 1Tm 5:15
- [5D] How many witnesses were required in order to bring an accusation against an elder?
At least 2 1Tm 5:19
- [5E] What does Paul say can not be concealed? Whether your deeds are good or bad 1Tm 5:24-25
- [6A] How are servants to behave towards their masters? Respectfully 1Tm 6:1-2
- [6B] What happens to people who want to get rich? They fall into temptations 1Tm 6:9-10
- [6C] How long are we to continue to obey God? Until the end of time 1Tm 6:14-15
- [6D] What are we to be "rich" in? Good works 1Tm 6:18



The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.

— 1 TIMOTHY 5:17 NIV

(1) In 1Tm 1:17, Paul concludes a prayer. Where does the prayer start? How do you know?

Think & Pray _____

(2) In 1Tm 2:12, Paul says that he, Paul, does not allow women to teach men. Some people believe Paul meant for this to apply only to himself. Others think he meant for it to apply as a rule or law for the entire body of Christ in all ages and places. What do you think Paul meant and why?

Think & Pray _____

(3) In 1Tm 3:6, Paul says a church leader should not be a new Christian. How long do you think someone should be a Christian before assuming leadership positions in the church?

Think & Pray _____

(4) In 1Tm 4:8, Paul says spiritual discipline is superior to bodily discipline. Please explain what you think he means by this.

Think & Pray _____

(5) What do you think 1Tm 5:12 means and why?

Think & Pray _____

(6) If someone asked you what First Timothy was about what would you say?

Think & Pray _____

(7) How can the lessons of First Timothy be applied to our own life?

Think & Pray _____

(8) Which verse or passage would you select to memorize from First Timothy? Why?

Think & Pray _____

If you have any questions about First Timothy, now is the time to discuss them with your classmates.

(1) Finding the Prayer: I think the prayer started in verse 12 when he began thanking God. Some theologians argue that it is a one verse poem, starting and ending in verse 17. Maybe We certainly should spend more of our "Prayer Time" thanking God for our blessings than asking (some people virtually "demand") for things we need, or simply things we want. Paul gave a good example of "Praising God".

(2) Women in the Church: There seems to be a lot more controversy about a "Woman's Role" than there is about a "Prayer Warrior's Role". I suppose it is easier to ignore prayer than it is to ignore women. There are many interpretations of the passages dealing with the "woman's" role in the Church. I suppose all of them think they are right. The word "silence" here in Timothy is from the Greek word "hesuchia" meaning to refrain from making a fuss with noisy activity. The word in I Corinthians 14:34 is "sigao" meaning to keep close or quiet. Paul had just written about women praying and prophesying (I Cor. 11:5). If we take "keep silence" in an absolute sense, then women are not allowed to say anything in a congregational meeting, and they could not be praying nor prophesying, nor singing, nor anything else. I think Paul is dealing with the "things whereof ye wrote unto me" (I Cor. 7:1). I say that because he follows "keep silence" with a question—: "What? Came the word of God out from you? Or came it unto you only?" (I Cor. 14:36). I think both passages are dealing with orderliness in public worship services. I think in First Timothy he was also addressing a particular situation that Timothy was dealing with, and had no notion that it should be applied generally to all women everywhere. Perhaps the resolution is, "Let all things be done decently and in order" (I Cor. 14:40).

(3) Inexperienced Leaders: I think it depends on their maturity in general, and how apt they are to learn and lead. But some substantial period of time should go by. The Greek word for "novice" is "neophutos" meaning something newly planted. When an apple tree is planted, it takes time for it to mature enough to produce fruit. Some plants take longer than others. The same is true with Christians. It is impossible to set a specific time limit.

(4) Discipline: If I am strong and healthy, I can use it for good or bad. If I am of good character it will only be used for good. Faith is more important than physical exercise. We can strengthen our faith by adding to it virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness and charity (II Pet. 1:5-8). I think godliness is more than just abstaining from evil. Paul said, the Grace that bringeth salvation, ... also teaches us that we should LIVE soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world (Titus 2:11-14).

(5) Widows: The word "damnation" or "condemnation" is from the Greek word "Krima", meaning judgment—, as the decision of a judge or the group. It is preceded by the participle "having" which gives it a present continuing sense. If she abandons her commitment to Christ just to satisfy her sexual desires, she must live with the consequences. We have no idea what the "list" was or what "pledge" they had to make to get on it, but apparently it was pretty significant.

(6) First Timothy Summary Ministers, especially if they are "young" in the work need a lot of encouragement. I like the summary at the beginning of the lesson that said, "1st Timothy is a letter from Paul to a young pastor he was mentoring. Paul talks to Timothy about dealing with various problems in the church, prays, asks for prayer, and mentions several specific things for all of us to do and not do, and for Timothy to teach and not teach. Paul also talks about the leadership role in the church, both in terms of the character of those who should have it, and specifically how leaders should behave themselves."

(7) First Timothy Life Application I still need encouragement and instruction. This book has come to mean a lot more to me now that I am a pastor, then it did before. In the next lesson, we look at another letter from Paul to Timothy. I hope you find it useful, helpful, and informative. It has also, come to mean more to me since I became a pastor.

(8) Something to Remember I like I Tim 4:16 "Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you." because as a pastor it is something I need to remember all the time.