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1 Timothy

THE CHURCH,
THE PILLAR AND SUPPORT
OF THE TRUTH

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®

1 TIMOTHY

THE CHURCH, THE PILLAR AND SUPPORT OF THE TRUTH

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HELPFUL STUDY TOOLS

ARTHUR, KAY; ARTHUR, DAVID; DE LACY, PETE

How to Study Your Bible

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 1994/2010

The New Inductive Study Bible—New American Standard Version

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2000

Greek Word Study Tools

RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES

HIEBERT, D. EDMOND

Everyman's Bible Commentary: First Timothy

Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1957

THOMAS, ROBERT L.; EARLE, RALPH; HIEBERT, D. EDMOND

The Expositor's Bible Commentary: 1, 2 Thessalonians; 1, 2 Timothy; Titus

Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996.

WALVOORD, JOHN F., ZUCK, ROY B., EDS.

The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures—New Testament

Wheaton, Illinois: Victor Books, 1983-c1985

LEA, THOMAS D., GRIFFIN, HAYNE P.

The New American Commentary: Volume 34, 1, 2 Timothy, Titus

Nashville, Tennessee: B & H Publishing Group, 1992

RECOMMENDED SOFTWARE

Logos Bible Software

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LESSON ONE

Overview

THIS LESSON INCORPORATES The following located in the Appendix:
Observation Worksheets of 1 Timothy
“Sequence of Events in Paul’s Life after His Conversion”
“1 Timothy at a Glance”
Map

Undaunted after two years of house arrest in Rome, Paul was ever eager to be God’s obedient slave fulfilling his divine calling, building and nurturing the bride of Christ, the Church. This required a strategic use not only of his time and effort but also of those God had put under his charge.

He would do this through writing letters. How many we do not know, but God preserved what was essential for the future of Christianity and had men of God include them in the canon of Scripture.

Each letter holds its unique and special place in the New Testament so that God’s children down through the ages might have everything that pertains to life and godliness.

It’s our prayer that your study of 1 Timothy will be used in an eternally significant way in your life as a man or woman of God.

DAY ONE

Our sole objective this week will be to gain a good overview of 1 Timothy, to become familiar with the general content of this letter, its context, and God’s purpose in preserving it for us.

1. The Bible is a God-breathed compilation of sixty-six books written over a period of 1400–1800 years by over forty God-ordained authors from all walks of life. It is unadulterated truth, the very bread by which we are to live. It is the Word of God.

Therefore, we strongly suggest that every time you study God's Word, you seek the help of His Spirit in understanding what has been written, why it was written, and what God wants you to know, that you might have what you need for life and godliness (2 Peter 1:1-4).

2. Good, now that you've prayed, let's see what this letter is all about. When you get a letter—if it's a long one with lots of substance—it's helpful to read it more than once. The first read helps you get the big picture of who it is from and what it's all about—why it was written.

This is where we will begin.

- a. Read 1 Timothy to familiarize yourself with the general content of the letter. You will find the text of 1 Timothy in the Appendix of your workbook.
- b. Now read 1 Timothy chapter 1 only and color-code references to the author. Color the author's name and pronouns in the first person singular—every *I*, *me*, and *my*. Some of us color the author the same color throughout the New Testament, for instance dark blue.
- c. Read the chapter again and this time color-code references to the recipient—who you know is Timothy simply by the title of the letter and the second verse of chapter 1. (By the way, the chapter and verse designations were added to the Bible in the 1500s.)

Mark the pronouns, *you*, *your*, *yourself*, and any synonyms Paul uses for Timothy. Some mark recipients in orange.

- d. Now, let's see what you learn from marking the author and recipient. There's a chart at the end of this lesson where you can list (along with chapter and verse) what you learn about Paul and Timothy.
3. In the Appendix, you will find a chart: "Sequence of Events in Paul's Life after His Conversion" and a map.
 - a. Consult the chart to see the year in which Paul wrote 1 Timothy and the events that preceded its writing.
 - b. On the map, locate the places mentioned in 1 Timothy 1:3.

b. chapter 3

3. At this point, having read the first three chapters of Paul's letter, do you have any insight(s) as to why Paul wrote what he's written so far? If so, write it down.

4. Did you see anything of value to us today as children of God? Note it and then talk with God about it.

DAY
THREE

1. Pray and then continue your overview of 1 Timothy.
 - a. Read 1 Timothy 4 once and mark the author, then read it again and mark the recipient. List what you learn about them on the chart at the end of the lesson.
 - b. Do the same for chapter 5.

DAY
FOUR

1. Today will be a lighter day as we've come to the last chapter of Paul's letter to Timothy. Observe chapter 6 as you've done with the first five.
2. List any subjects you see in this chapter.
3. Just from your first observations of 1 Timothy 6, list at least three ways the content of this chapter is pertinent for those who profess to be Christians.

If you have done all your assignments to this point, we say, "Well done." However, if not, why? What hindered you? Was there anything you could have said "no" to that would have given you more time? Was it something that should take priority over studying God's Word?

These are good questions to ask so you are better prepared to keep your commitment to honor God by studying His Word for yourself. Remember you must finish to qualify for the prize!

Whatever you do . . . don't miss Day Five and the note in italics that follows.

DAY
FIVE

1. As we wrap up this first week of study, think about 1 Timothy as a whole. God included in His Bible four personal letters written by Paul to three individuals: Timothy, Titus, and Philemon. So ask yourself what Paul was doing in 1 Timothy. Why was 1 Timothy preserved and included in the Word of God, the Holy Bible?

Pray and then do the following:

- a. Review what you observed about Paul and Timothy in this letter and the substance of each chapter.
 - b. Now go back and look at the chart “Sequence of Events in Paul’s Life after His Conversion.” What’s the historical setting of this letter . . . where does it fit in time and in the lives of Paul and Timothy?
 - c. What categories or groups of people are referred to in this letter?
-
2. Paul referred to Timothy as his true child in the faith. Let’s run some cross-references and see what more we can learn about the history of their relationship. Look up each text and record what you learn. You might refer to the map in the Appendix.

- d. Think about this. Paul went to Lystra a second time after what happened on the first visit!!! What does this tell you about Paul? And who would Paul miss if he had avoided returning to Lystra after his difficult time there? Anything you might learn from this for your life?

Do you ever begin a day by asking God to direct your steps and make you sensitive to His leading? It sure can help when things don't seem to be what you would choose!

3. In the Appendix, you'll find "1 Timothy at a Glance."
 - a. You've seen why Paul wrote 1 Timothy. Record it under "Purpose," along with the chapter and verse where you found it.
 - b. Now fill in the "Author," as well as the "Date," which you saw on "Sequence of Events in Paul's Life after His Conversion."
 - c. That's all for now, but we'll continue to use this chart throughout our study of 1 Timothy.
4. Do you think this letter is for the Church today also? Why?

5. Finally, how committed are you to studying God's Word and discovering truth for yourself? Or do you prefer to simply have someone else tell you what to believe? Did you see anything in 1 Timothy that warns you against that?

Precept Ministries International is actively establishing children, teens, and adults in God's Word because our Precept students around the globe have understood Jesus' commandment in Matthew 28:18-20:

And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Consequently, these students have disciplined themselves to learn the inductive method. Because these studies have been translated into many languages, they are using them to make disciples around the world . . . many times at peril of their own freedom, of their lives. Why? Because God Himself has taught them and they are not going to turn aside from His commandments (Psalm 119:102).

Do pray with us that the body of Jesus Christ, every true member of His Church, will realize they are the pillar and support of the truth, and that they will live accordingly no matter the cost.

RECIPIENT

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AUTHOR

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RECIPIENT

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AUTHOR

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1 TIMOTHY 1

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

PAUL, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of God our Savior, and of Christ Jesus, *who is* 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 upon my departure for Macedonia, remain on at Ephesus so that you may instruct certain men not to teach strange doctrines,

4 nor to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies, which give rise to mere speculation rather than *furthering* the administration of God which is by faith.

5 But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

6 For some men, straying from these things, have turned aside to fruitless discussion,

7 wanting to be teachers of the Law, even though they do not understand either what they are saying or the matters about which they make confident assertions.

8 But we know that the Law is good, if one uses it lawfully,

9 realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous person, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers

10 and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching,

- 11 according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, with which I have been entrusted.
- 12 I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service,
- 13 even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief;
- 14 and the grace of our Lord was more than abundant, with the faith and love which are *found* in Christ Jesus.
- 15 It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost *of all*.
- 16 Yet for this reason I found mercy, so that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life.
- 17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, *be* honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.
- 18 This command I entrust to you, Timothy, *my* son, in accordance with the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you fight the good fight,
- 19 keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith.
- 20 Among these are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan, so that they will be taught not to blaspheme.

1 TIMOTHY 2

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- FIRST** of all, then, I urge that entreaties *and* prayers, petitions *and* thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men,
- 2 for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.
- 3 This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,
- 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
- 5 For there is one God, *and* one mediator also between God and men, *the* man Christ Jesus,
- 6 who gave Himself as a ransom for all, 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) as a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.
- 8 Therefore I want the men in every place to pray, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and dissension.
- 9 Likewise, *I want* women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments,
- 10 but rather by means of good works, as is proper for women making a claim to godliness.
- 11 A woman must quietly receive instruction with entire submissiveness.
- 12 But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet.
- 13 For it was Adam who was first created, *and* then Eve.

- 14 And *it was* not Adam *who* was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.
- 15 But *women* will be preserved through the bearing of children if they continue in faith and love and sanctity with self-restraint.

1 TIMOTHY 3

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- IT is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires *to do*.
- 2 An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,
 - 3 not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money.
 - 4 *He must be* one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity
 - 5 (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?),
 - 6 *and* not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil.
 - 7 And he must have a good reputation with those outside *the church*, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.
 - 8 Deacons likewise *must be* men of dignity, not double-tongued, or addicted to much wine or fond of sordid gain,
 - 9 *but* holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.
 - 10 These men must also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons if they are beyond reproach.
 - 11 Women *must* likewise *be* dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things.
 - 12 Deacons must be husbands of *only* one wife, *and* good managers of *their* children and their own households.

-
- 13 For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.
- 14 I am writing these things to you, hoping to come to you before long;
- 15 but in case I am delayed, *I write* so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.
- 16 By common confession, great is the mystery of godliness:
- He who was revealed in the flesh,
Was vindicated in the Spirit,
Seen by angels,
Proclaimed among the nations,
Believed on in the world,
Taken up in glory.

1 TIMOTHY 4

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- BUT** the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,
- 2 by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron,
 - 3 *men* who forbid marriage *and advocate* abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in 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 gratitude;
 - 5 for it is sanctified by means of the word of God and prayer.
 - 6 In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, *constantly* nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have been following.
 - 7 But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness;
 - 8 for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and *also* for the *life* to come.
 - 9 It is a trustworthy statement deserving full acceptance.
 - 10 For it is for this we labor and strive, because we have fixed our hope on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers.
 - 11 Prescribe and teach these things.
 - 12 Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but *rather* in speech, conduct, love, faith *and* purity, show yourself an example of those who believe.

- 13 Until I come, give attention to the *public* reading of *Scripture*, to exhortation and teaching.
- 14 Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery.
- 15 Take pains with these things; be *absorbed* in them, so that your progress will be evident to all.
- 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.

1 TIMOTHY 5

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- DO** not sharply rebuke an older man, but *rather* appeal to *him* as a father,
to the younger men as brothers,
- 2 the older women as mothers, *and* the younger women as sisters, in all
purity.
- 3 Honor widows who are widows indeed;
- 4 but if any widow has children or grandchildren, they must first learn to
practice piety in regard to their own family and to make some return to
their parents; for this is acceptable in the sight of God.
- 5 Now she who is a widow indeed and who has been left alone, has fixed
her hope on God and continues in entreaties and prayers night and day.
- 6 But she who gives herself to wanton pleasure is dead even while she lives.
- 7 Prescribe these things as well, so that they may be above reproach.
- 8 But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of
his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.
- 9 A widow is to be put on the list only if she is not less than sixty years
old, *having been* the wife of one man,
- 10 having a reputation for good works; *and* if she has brought up children,
if she has shown hospitality to strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet,
if she has assisted those in distress, *and* if she has devoted herself
to every good work.
- 11 But refuse *to put* younger widows *on the list*, for when they feel sensual
desires in disregard of Christ, they want to get married,
- 12 *thus* incurring condemnation, because they have set aside their previous
pledge.

- 13 At the same time they also learn *to be* idle, as they go around from house to house; and not merely idle, but also gossips and busybodies, talking about things not proper *to mention*.
- 14 Therefore, I want younger *widows* to get married, bear children, keep house, *and* give the enemy no occasion for reproach;
- 15 for some have already turned aside to follow Satan.
- 16 If any woman who is a believer has *dependent* widows, she must assist them and the church must not be burdened, so that it may assist those who are widows indeed.
- 17 The elders who rule well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching.
- 18 For the Scripture says, “YOU SHALL NOT MUZZLE THE OX WHILE HE IS THRESHING,” and “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”
- 19 Do not receive an accusation against an elder except on the basis of two or three witnesses.
- 20 Those who continue in sin, rebuke in the presence of all, so that the rest also will be fearful *of sinning*.
- 21 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of *His* chosen angels, to maintain these *principles* without bias, doing nothing in a *spirit of* partiality.
- 22 Do not lay hands upon anyone *too* hastily and thereby share *responsibility for* the sins of others; keep yourself free from sin.
- 23 No longer drink water *exclusively*, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.
- 24 The sins of some men are quite evident, going before them to judgment; for others, their *sins* follow after.
- 25 Likewise also, deeds that are good are quite evident, and those which are otherwise cannot be concealed.

1 TIMOTHY 6

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

ALL who are under the yoke as slaves are to regard their own masters as worthy of all honor so that the name of God and *our* doctrine will not be spoken against.

2 Those who have believers as their masters must not be disrespectful to them because they are brethren, but must serve them all the more, because those who partake of the benefit are believers and beloved. Teach and preach these *principles*.

3 If anyone advocates a different doctrine and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming to godliness,

4 he is conceited *and* understands nothing; but he has a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words, out of which arise envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions,

5 and constant friction between men of depraved mind and deprived of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain.

6 But godliness *actually* is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment.

7 For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either.

8 If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.

9 But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction.

- 10 For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.
- 11 But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance *and* gentleness.
- 12 Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and 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 testified the good confession before Pontius Pilate,
- 14 that you keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- 15 which He will bring about at the proper time—He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords,
- 16 who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see. To Him *be* honor and eternal dominion! Amen.
- 17 Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.
- 18 *Instruct them* to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share,
- 19 storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.
- 20 O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly *and* empty chatter *and* the opposing arguments of what is falsely called “knowledge”—
- 21 which some have professed and thus gone astray from the faith.
- G**race be with you.

1 TIMOTHY AT A GLANCE

Book Theme:

Author:

Chapter Themes

Date:

1

Purpose:

2

Key Words:

3

4

5

6

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS IN PAUL'S LIFE AFTER HIS CONVERSION*

* There are differing opinions on these dates. For consistency this chart will be the basis for dates pertaining to Paul's life.

Scripture	Year A.D.	Event
Acts 9:1-25	33-34	Conversion, time in Damascus
	35-47	Some silent years, except we know that Paul:
Galatians 1:17		1. Spent time in Arabia and Damascus
Acts 9:26; Galatians 1:18		2. Made first visit to Jerusalem
Acts 9:30-11:26; Galatians 1:21		3. Went to Tarsus, Syria-Cilicia area
Acts 11:26		4. Was with Barnabas in Antioch
Acts 11:27-30		5. With Barnabas took relief to brethren in Judea; Paul's second visit to Jerusalem
Acts 12:23	44	Herod Agrippa I dies
Acts 12:25-13:3		6. Returned to Antioch; was sent out with Barnabas by church at Antioch
Acts 13:4-14:26	47-48	First missionary journey: <i>Galatians</i> written (?) Proconsul Sergius Paulus at Paphos
Acts 15:1-35	49	Apostolic Council at Jerusalem—Paul visits Jerusalem <i>Galatians</i> written (?)
Acts 15:36-18:22	49-51	Second missionary journey: <i>1 and 2 Thessalonians</i> written— 1½ years in Corinth, Acts 18:11
	51-52	Gallio known to be proconsul in Corinth
Acts 18:23-21:17	52-56	Third missionary journey: <i>1 and 2 Corinthians</i> and <i>Romans</i> written— 1 Cor. from Ephesus, 2 Cor. from Macedonia, Romans from Corinth
Acts 21:17-23:35	56	Paul goes to Jerusalem and is arrested; held in Caesarea
Acts 24-26	57-59	Appearance before Felix and Drusilla; before Festus—appeals to Caesar; before Agrippa
Acts 27-28:15	59-60	Paul goes from Caesarea to Rome
Acts 28:16-31	60-62	First Roman imprisonment: <i>Ephesians, Philemon, Colossians, and Philippians</i> written—2 years in prison
	62	Paul's release; possible trip to Spain
	62	Paul in Macedonia: <i>1 Timothy</i> written
	62	Paul goes to Crete <i>Titus</i> written
	63-64	Paul taken to Rome and imprisoned: <i>2 Timothy</i> written
	64	Paul is absent from the body and present with the Lord (Others put Paul's conversion about A.D. 35, his death at A.D. 68.)

14 years, Galatians 2:1

3 years



