

Epistles to Timothy

Lesson 1 (Sunday)

Passage	What Did You Learn About Timothy?
Acts 16:1-5	
Acts 17:14	
Acts 18:5	
Acts 19:22	
Acts 20:4	
Rom. 16:21	
1 Cor. 4:17	
1 Co. 16:10	
2 Co. 1: 1, 19	
Phil. 1:1	
Phil. 2:19	
Col. 1:1	
1 Th. 1:1	
1 Th. 3:2, 6	
2 Thess 1:1	
1 Tm. 1:2,18	
1 Tm. 6:20	
2 Tm. 1:2	
Philem 1	
Heb. 13:23	

We will learn more about Timothy's character as we study the two epistles written to him, but what can you tell about Timothy's character from these other New Testament references to him? See if you can come up with five words to describe what kind of a person Timothy was. Provide a passage that demonstrates this.

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

Lesson 1 (Wednesday)

Fill out the table on the next page to develop an overview of 1 Timothy. It is useful to get a sense of the entire letter before studying its parts.

Overview of 1 Timothy (fill out the chart)

Chapter 1	Chapter 2	Chapter 3	Chapter 4	Chapter 5 – 6:2	Chapter 6:2-21
Theme	Theme	Theme	Theme	Theme	Theme
What is an epistle?					
Is there a theme for the entire epistle?					
Are there any key (repeated) words?					

Lesson 2 (Sunday) – 1 Timothy 1

List as many specific things as you can find that Paul tells Timothy to do in this chapter.

What is the aim of our charge (verse 5)? How does this apply to you as a Christian? How do we help each other “reach the target?” What can lead us to “miss the target?”

What is the law profitable for according to Paul? What is “contrary to sound doctrine” in verse 10?

How does Paul describe his salvation to Timothy? Why does he describe it here? Surely Timothy had heard about Paul's conversion before.

What does Paul specifically thank the Lord for in verses 12 through 17?

What two things was Timothy to hold onto (verse 19)? Why are both important?

What do we learn from Hymenaeus and Alexander?

Lesson 2 (Wednesday) – 1 Timothy 1 – Digging Deeper into Sound Doctrine

Read the first chapter and see what words and phrases Paul uses to contrast the truth with things that are harmful and unprofitable for us. Fill out as many as you can find.

Words and Phrases Describing Dangers and Distractions	Words and Phrases Describing the Truth

What criteria do you use to assess the teaching you hear? How do you think Paul would suggest you go about examining what you are taught prior to adopting it?

What does Paul tell us about the motivation for teachers who had wandered away from the target in Chapter 1? What were they teaching on that was causing confusion?

What does Paul say about “speculations” and “vain discussions?” How can we avoid these in our Bible classes and preaching?

What are some of the potential consequences of unsound teaching that Paul identifies? Are there other Bible passages that warn of consequences?

Who is responsible for making sure we have “sound doctrine” in our congregation? How do we go about doing this?

Lesson 3 (Sunday) – 1 Timothy 2

Does 1 Timothy 2 apply to individual or public worship? If both, what specific verses address individual worship and which verses address public worship?

What types of worship activities does Paul address with Timothy?

How does Paul describe prayer in 1 Timothy 2:1? What do each of these words mean? What priority does Paul give to prayer?

What kinds of rulers should we pray for? What do we ask regarding them? What should motivate our prayers for the government? Why would God care about prayers for worldly governments?

What is a mediator? How many mediators do we have? Was this true under the Old Testament? What is unique about Jesus as a mediator?

What kind of attitude do we need to have when we pray (1 Tm. 2:8)?

What specific actions does Paul instruct women to take in 1 Tm. 2:9-15?

What does Paul mean by modest apparel in 1 Timothy 2?

Can a woman have style and still be modest?

Does this principle apply to men? How might this relate to James 2:2-4?

How do you think Paul would react to someone who understood him to be saying they should neglect their appearance? Are there scriptures that apply?

Lesson 3 (Wednesday) – Digging Deeper into Women’s Roles

What are some of the reactions that people have to Paul’s teaching on the role of women in 1 Tm. 2:9-15? Why do they react this way?

How should women learn according to 1 Tm. 2:11? Is quietness or silence a better translation? What does it mean to be quiet? How do you think men are supposed to learn?

What does 1 Tm. 2:12 say about women teaching? Can a woman teach at all? If so, what is the restriction? Are there scriptures that provide additional information on this?

What reasons does Paul give for the instruction regarding women as teachers? What is the history behind this?

What does 1 Tm. 2:15 teach about childbearing? Is a woman penalized if she doesn't have children? Is a woman who has children better? If not, what does Paul mean by this statement?

What does 1 Tm. 2:15 tell Christian mothers they should focus on? How can they do this?

Lesson 4 (Sunday) – 1 Timothy 3

What is an overseer? What other terms are used in the Bible for this role? What is their work?

Describe each of the qualifications for an overseer in the table below.

Qualification	Meaning
Aspiring	
Above Reproach	
Husband of One Wife	
Self-Controlled	
Sensible	
Respectable	
Hospitable	
Able to Teach	
Not a Drinker	
Not a Bully	
Gentle	
Not Quarrelsome	
Not Greedy	
Managing His House Competently	
Children Under Control	
Managing House with All Dignity	
Not a New Convert	
Good Outside Reputation	

What is a deacon? What is the difference between a deacon, an overseer, and an evangelist?

Describe each of the qualifications for a deacon in the table below.

Qualification	Meaning
Worthy of Respect	
Not Hypocritical	
Not Drinking a Lot of Wine	
Not Greedy	
Clear Conscience	
Tested	
Blameless	
Husband of One Wife	
Managing Household Competently	

Describe the qualifications for a deacon's wife? Do you think they apply to elder's wives? Why or why not?

Qualification	Meaning
Worthy of Respect	
Not Slanderers	
Self-Controlled	
Faithful in Everything	

Lesson 4 (Wednesday) – Digging Deeper into the Mystery of Godliness

How do you think 1 Tm. 3:15 might serve as a theme for the entire book? Why or why not?

Why does Paul call the church God's household? What is the significance of this statement?

What does it mean when Paul says the church is the pillar and foundation of the truth? Is the church the source of truth? If not, how can it be the pillar?

Paul says the mystery of godliness is great. Is it mysterious? Is it hard to understand? Why does Paul say this?

Explain each of the following statements in verse 16.

Statement	Meaning
He was manifested in the flesh	
Vindicated in the Spirit	
Seen by Angels	
Preached Among the Nations	
Believed on in the World	
Taken Up in Glory	

Lesson 5 (Sunday) – 1 Timothy 4

Read 1 Tm. 4:1 through 5:2. List each thing that Paul tells Timothy about his work as a preacher of God's word.

Is this part of the Bible just for preachers? Why does it matter to you? What can you learn from this text.

Where does false teaching come from (1 Tm. 4:1-2)? Why do people follow it?

What did Timothy need to do about false teaching (1 Tm. 4:6)? What six things does Paul tell Timothy do so he will be prepared to defend the truth (1 Tm. 4:1-10)?

What does Paul mean when he refers to an elder in 1 Tm. 5:1-2? How was Timothy to treat elders? How does that apply to us?

Lesson 5 (Wednesday) – Digging Deeper into Godliness

What is godliness? Identify all the times the word is used in 1 Timothy and 2 Timothy.

Who needs to train in godliness? Are there passages to support your answer?

How can we train ourselves to be godly? Be as practical and specific as you can.

How much time do you feel that someone would need to devote each week to be trained in godliness?
The Greek word for train is *gymnazō*. Does that sound like any English words?

What was Paul's motivation for godliness (1 Tm. 4:10)?

Lesson 6 (1 Timothy 5)

It's all about relationships. What relationships in the church does Paul discuss in 1 Timothy 5?

What do you learn about your relationship with elders in the first two verses of this chapter?

Which widows in your family does this apply to? Is there a principle here that could apply to other family relationships (what about a father or brother)? Are there other passages that shed light on this?

What might you need to do for a widow in your family? What type of support or care might be required? Did Jesus say anything that might suggest how he feels about this responsibility?

What type of relationship should you have with widows in the church (regardless of whether they are eligible for support)?

What do you learn about your relationship with elders in 1 Timothy 5:17-25?

What relationship is discussed in 1 Tm. 6:1-2? How might we apply this today?

Lesson 6 (Wednesday) – Digging Deeper into Benevolence

What is benevolence?

Are there New Testament examples where individuals practiced benevolence in the New Testament?
Are there examples of congregations practicing benevolence?

What principles do you see in 1 Tm. 5 that help you determine when individuals should practice benevolence and when the church should?

Is it optional for a church whether or not it practices benevolence?

Find as many examples of benevolence by congregations in the New Testament as you can in the table below.

Passage	Which Church?	Who Was Helped?

Are there any limits on who we can help as individuals? What passage supports your answer? Are there any priorities regarding who we should assist?

What were the motivations for benevolence in 2 Corinthians 9? How might we accomplish the same kind of good in the world today?

Lesson 7 (Sunday) – 1 Timothy 6

What similarities do you see between 1 Timothy 1 and 1 Timothy 6:3-21? Why do you think there are similarities?

Why does Paul talk about greed (1 Tm. 6:5)? Do you see a similar problem in the world today? Is this a problem in the church?

What other characteristics of false teachers does Paul describe (1 Tm. 6:3-5)?

Do you think contentment is valued in our society? What are some of the things that make it difficult to be content?

What does Paul tell Timothy to pursue (1 Tm. 1:11)? How would you pursue these things?

Why does Paul tell Timothy to fight? Are there any restrictions on how Christians can fight?

Lesson 7 (Wednesday) – Digging Deeper into Riches

What are Paul's instructions to the wealthy (1 Tm. 6:17-19)? How specifically might a rich person go about doing these things?

Do you think you are rich? How did you arrive at your conclusion?

What dangers are associated with wealth in the Bible? What passages support your answers?

Describe the attitude about riches that Paul encourages in 1 Tm. 6:5-10.

What are some ways that we can be rich in good works?

What are the consequences of covetousness (1 Tm. 6:5-10)?