

**Quarter 4 Lesson 7**  
**Sixth Grade**  
**Keep the Faith!**  
**1 and 2 Timothy**

**Memory Verse: "Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity."**

**I Timothy 4:12**

Background

Paul wrote I Timothy when he was in Macedonia and while Timothy was preaching in Ephesus. Paul wrote 2 Timothy when he was imprisoned in Rome. Paul had preached the gospel to the people in Lystra on his first missionary journey. This is probably when Timothy, his mother, and grandmother became Christians.

About Timothy

Timothy was a native of Lystra which is located in modern-day Turkey. He was the son of a Greek (Gentile) father and a Jewish mother, Eunice, who was a believer. His faithful grandmother was named Lois. Timothy's name means "honoring God" or "precious to God."

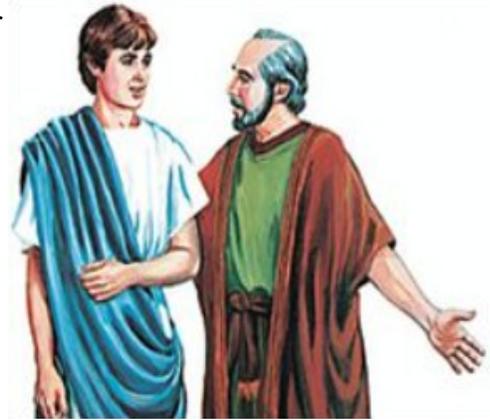


From an early age, Timothy was taught about God by his mother and grandmother. He grew up seeing their sincere trust and faith in the Lord. Because of their examples, he developed his own faith in God and the earnest desire to do His will. These two women helped to mold the character of this young boy who would later become a great gospel preacher.

Paul and Timothy

We learn from Acts 16, that by the time Paul returned to this area on his second missionary journey, Timothy had built a good reputation among the Christians

who lived in Lystra and Iconium, which was a larger city to the north. Because of his strong faith and good character, as well as his being so familiar with the Jewish and Greco-Roman cultures, Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him as he went about preaching the gospel. Timothy played an important role in the remainder of the second missionary journey as well as the third missionary journey, where he was very active in evangelizing. Paul and Timothy became very close as they traveled together serving the Lord. Paul refers to Timothy as “my co-worker,” “my son whom I love,” “our brother,” “servant of Christ Jesus,” “my true son in the faith,” and “my dearly beloved son.” Paul also said, “as a son with a father he has served.”



WHY WOULD PAUL REFER TO TIMOTHY AS A “SON” WHEN THEY WERE NOT RELATED?

AS WE LOOK AT TIMOTHY'S EXAMPLE, HOW IMPORTANT IS IT THAT OUR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS TEACH US HOW TO LIVE RIGHTEOUS LIVES?

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO HAVE A GOOD REPUTATION?

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THE CHURCH IF A WHOLE GENERATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE FAILED TO LEARN ABOUT GOD AND HOW HE WANTS US TO LIVE?

Paul's main purpose in writing the letters of I and II Timothy was to instruct his young associate to **guard the spiritual heritage** that he had received by **establishing sound doctrine in the church**. Sound doctrine is when **the truth** is preached **according to God's commandments**. I Timothy begins with a warning against false doctrine. False doctrine is brought into the church when men try to change God's commandments. Unfortunately, there are many good people who are very religious but who have listened to false doctrine and think that it is acceptable. It was part of Timothy's job to be sure that the congregations stayed faithful and did not listen to false teachers who tried to change God's Word.

Because Timothy was a young preacher, it may be that he felt a bit intimidated by instructing older people in God's truths. In chapter 4, Paul encourages the young evangelist and explains how he should conduct himself.

## READ I Tim. 4: 11-15.

Just because you are young does not mean that you can't serve God faithfully. Paul told Timothy to **set an example** before other Christians **in the way he talked, in his conduct, in his love for God and others, in his faith, and in a pure heart.** This applies to young people today as well as to adults! **What kind of example are you setting?**

In verse 14, Paul mentions to Timothy the gift he had been given when the "council of elders laid their hands on" him. We know that during the beginning years of the church, some Christians were given special gifts to help them spread the gospel.

DO YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY HAVE GIFTS OR TALENTS THAT CAN BE USED IN SERVICE TO THE LORD? WHAT ARE SOME TALENTS YOU HAVE OR THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO DEVELOP TO HELP YOU BETTER SERVE GOD?

## READ I TIM. 6:7-12.

WHAT ARE SOME NEGATIVE THINGS ABOUT BEING RICH?

- falling into temptations
- senseless and harmful desires that can lead to ruin and destruction
- loving money, craving it, putting it first

## READ I TIM. 6:17-19.

WHAT ARE SOME POSITIVE THINGS ABOUT BEING RICH?

- use it to do good works
- be generous and ready to share



After a brief greeting, the second letter to Timothy begins by Paul recalling Timothy's **spiritual heritage** which **“dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.”** 2 Tim. 1:5

**LOOK AT 2 TIM. 1:12.** DO ANY OF THOSE WORDS SOUND FAMILIAR TO YOU? (Song: *I Know Whom I Have Believed* “I know not why God's wondrous grace To me He hath made known, Nor why, unworthy, Christ in love, Redeemed me for His own. But I know whom I have believed, And am persuaded that He is able To keep that which I've committed Unto Him against

that day.”

**In 2 Tim. 2: 3-7**, Paul uses three metaphors as models for Timothy to imitate as a strong and worthy servant of the gospel. What are these metaphors and their applications?

*Good soldier: endure hardship; focused on pleasing the authority under whom he enlisted*

*Athlete: competing according to the rules in order to win the crown*

*Farmer: hardworking; first to partake of the crops*

In chapter 3, Paul warns Timothy that even though perilous times will come, he should remain faithful to the things he has learned from the Holy Scriptures, even from childhood.

**Read 2 Tim. 3:16.**

Notice: **"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, reproof, ...correction, ...training in righteousness."** It is not up to man to make changes in God's message nor to update it to suit today's society. God does not change, and his Word does not change. **God's Word is perfect!**

If we live faithful Christian lives, we can say as Paul did in 2 Tim. 4: 7-8, **" I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me..."**

**Doesn't that just make you want to live for God and spend eternity in heaven with Him?!!**



