

1 Timothy

pass it on

April 26, 2009



By faith in Jesus we join a mission—equipped with the dynamism for loving change and the optimism of certain hope.

1 Timothy 1:1-11

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

2 To Timothy my true son in the faith:

Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer 4 nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. These promote controversies rather than God's work-- which is by faith. 5 The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. 6 Some have wandered away from these and turned to meaningless talk. 7 They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.

8 We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. 9 We also know that law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, 10 for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers-- and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine 11 that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.

Commission vs 1-2

- apostle
- command of God
- God our Savior
- Christ Jesus our hope
- true son in the faith
- Grace, mercy and peace
- **Hope comes from...**

- controversies
- meaningless talk
- **Love comes from...**

Confirming vs 8-11

- What is the proper use of God's commandments?
- How is it that God's commandments or the 10 Commandments are for the disobedient?
- **Change comes from...**

Commanding vs 3-7

What makes 'em false teachers?

- false doctrines
- myths
- endless genealogies

Where Do I Grow from Here? (Personal and Growth Group Questions)

You and others will benefit most by recording your answers in advance of your Growth Group meeting.

Interact

- 1) What negative memories of teachers do you have? What positive memories?
- 2) Which would you rather have, a poor teacher with good facts, or an effective teacher with bad facts?

Observe and Interpret

- 3) (vs 1-2) Do you relate more to Paul *or* Timothy in this passage? Why?
- 4) How is Jesus our hope? Is having Jesus as our hope
 - a. a certainty
 - b. a feeling of emotional well-being
 - c. a positive attitude
 - d. something that comes and goes
 - e. dependent upon who Jesus is and what he did
 - f. other
- 5) (vs 2) What do you make of the way Paul describes Timothy?
- 6) (vs. 3-11) What were the problems plaguing the church in Ephesus? What is at the root of these problems?
- 7) (vs 3) What does Paul want Timothy to do? How do you think Timothy felt about being left in charge of a situation like this? What would you do?
- 8) (vs 3) What is Timothy supposed to command the teachers to do? List some of the negative results coming from these teachers?
- 9) (vs 3) What's wrong with these teachers?
 - a. too confident
 - b. honestly misled
 - c. evil intentioned
 - d. lacking intelligence
 - e. lacking accurate information
 - f. other
- 10) Which is more important as a teacher, a keen mind or a teachable heart? Why?

- 11) (vs 4) How are these teachings in opposition to God's work—which is by faith?
- 12) (vs 4) What command is Paul talking about in this verse? How might the goal of Paul's command be love? What three things lead to love? How does faith in God lead to love?
- 13) I think Paul is... (Choose any that apply.)
 - a. too bossy
 - b. too judgmental
 - c. showing favoritism to Timothy
 - d. motivated by love
 - e. other
- 14) (vs 8) What evidence in the passage is there for how God's law is to be used *properly*?
- 15) (vs 9) Why might the law or commands of God be intended for these people that are listed?
- 16) (vs 9-10) How does this list of the disobedient compare to the 10 Commandments in Exodus 20:1-17?
- 17) (vs 10-11) How does *sound doctrine* relate to the *gospel*? Why should doctrine matter so much?

Apply

Remember, our goal is to encounter God in the Bible, with each other. Use these questions to that end.

- 18) In order to love more, do I need more right doctrine or more faith in God?
- 19) Would I rather have Jesus as my hope, or have things go the easiest way for me?
- 20) (vs 11) What has God entrusted to me in order to pass on to others?