

1 Timothy

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Introduction

The Book of Timothy, written around 64-67AD. Paul the aged and experienced apostle writes to the young Pastor Timothy. Timothy traveled with Paul on his second missionary journey and they had a special bond. Paul as we read in chapter one calls Timothy a true son in the faith.

Their bond was so close that Paul said no one else thinks so much like me than Timothy.

(Philippians 2:19 KJV) But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timotheus shortly unto you, that I also may be of good comfort, when I know your state.

(Philippians 2:20 KJV) For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state.

Paul and Timothy's story begins back in Acts 16 when Paul take him with him on his second missionary journey, and there this special father son relationship begins, and will last until Paul dies.

(Acts 16:1 NKJV) Then he came to Derbe and Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a certain Jewish woman who believed, but his father was Greek.

(Acts 16:2 NKJV) He was well spoken of by the brethren who were at Lystra and Iconium.

(Acts 16:3 NKJV) Paul wanted to have him go on with him. And he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in that region, for they all knew that his father was Greek.

(Acts 16:4 NKJV) And as they went through the cities, they delivered to them the decrees to keep, which were determined by the apostles and elders at Jerusalem.

(Acts 16:5 NKJV) So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and increased in number daily.

As Paul would establish churches and move on, we read that he would often leave timothy behind to help those churches in their growth. As we will read this letter, we will see that although Timothy is in Leadership, he still struggles with how to handle certain situations, he is still growing in his own maturity, and in leadership. I believe this book is applicable to all of us in some way or another because we are in the ministry in some form or fashion. Some teach bible Studies to adults, others are raising kids, some.....

Paul writes to Timothy so that he may know how the church is to function.

The Theme of this letter:

(1 Timothy 3:14 NKJV) These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly;

(1 Timothy 3:15 NKJV) but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

(1 Timothy 3:16 NKJV) And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

The Outline:

The Church and its Message – Chapter 1

The Church and its Members – Chapter 2 & 3

The Church and its Minister – Chapter 4

The Church and its Ministry to Itself – Chapter 5

The Church and its Motives – Chapter 6

Paul will instruct Timothy how the church is function, but understand this, the church is both corporately, and individually. The things taught in this book are for us as a group, the church and its four walls, and for us individually, for we are the temple of God, we are the body of Christ, the sum of individuals make up the Church Body.

These books (1&2 Timothy and Titus) have been called the Pastoral Epistles. For they help instruct ministers on how to serve in the ministry.

The second theme of this book, is chapter 1, verse 12:

(1 Timothy 1:12 NKJV) And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,

Maybe we get the thoughts why am I doing this? What's the deal? I'm tired, sometimes people don't like me, sometimes I pour myself into them, and they walk away at the end. But though those thoughts come, they are only fleeting, for I am thankful for being put into the ministry.

We may say that's great, you teach Bible studies, do the Chaplain thing, but that doesn't apply to me.

(John 15:5 NKJV) "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

Are you a disciple of Jesus Christ, are you one who loves Him, and chosen to follow Him, well then welcome to the ministry. We might not all do it vocationally, but we are all engaged in the ministry. Like Paul we should say, I am thankful for being called into the ministry. You may say why should I be, and I'll give you 7 short reasons to be happy, and then when you read Study 1 Timothy, you will see how book applies to you.

1.) Looking Around:

You see when I look around I am thankful I am in the ministry. When I look around me, the people who substance, solid in their walk, are the ones who are active in the ministry, they talk of the Lord experientially. These people have a solid foundation, for they know the word and walk in faith. Serving in the ministry causes them to seek the Lord for His power.

The children of Israel, when they journeyed those forty years in the wilderness would set up the Tabernacle right in the middle of the people. It was where God would dwell among His people, there in the Holy of Holies. In the Holy of Holies was the "Mercy Seat" and the glory of God, the Shikinah glory, was over the mercy seat.

The word Glory in the Hebrew: kabowd, kaw-bode' **weight, substance**, splendor or copiousness:--glorious (-ly), glory, honour (-able).

Guess who got to camp right around the tent, the closest to the glory, (Numbers chapter 3) the Levites those involved in service got to camp closest to the glory, the weight, the substance, the kabowd. I find this true in the kingdom, those that are serving the Lord get to camp closest to the Lord. When I am serving the Lord, teaching, sharing, ministering to someone, that is when I get to receive and see His glory the most. I see that among the people who serve the Lord as I look around, they camp closest to the Lord, they have substance compared to the flash and emptiness of the Lord.

2.) Looking Within

When I look within myself I am thankful I am in the ministry because ministry fills me.

(Luke 6:38 NKJV) "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

The degree you give out, is the degree you give out. I know when I am not serving or giving out, I'm not getting back. I get blessed studying the word to give out, I take in tenfold what I give out. For you it may be baking a cake for someone, writing a check, serving at the soup kitchen, visiting the assisted living.

You know what, even if they aren't listening or fully receiving, it still comes back on you.

Be thankful that you get to give out so that you get to take in, think how empty your life would be, but now how full it is because you give out.

Looking Around – seeing those with substance
Looking Within – seeing how full my life is

3.) Looking Down

I am thankful to be in the ministry when I look down at the tactics of Satan.

*(Deuteronomy 25:17 NKJV) "Remember what Amalek did to you on the way as you were coming out of Egypt,
(Deuteronomy 25:18 NKJV) "how he met you on the way and attacked your rear ranks, all the stragglers at your rear,
when you were tired and weary; and he did not fear God.*

The most dangerous place to be as we travel on this earth, through this life, unto heaven, is in the back of the pack. You say I'll make it to church if I get up on time, depends how late we get out of the movies. I have devotion times if I get up on time. What is happening is that you are moving to the back of the pack, and you will get pick-off.

The gazelle wakes up daily in Africa and says I must run faster than the fastest lion or I'll die. The lion wakes up and says I'll have to run faster than the slowest gazelle or I'll starve. The moral of the story is that you have to wake up running or you'll be eaten or dead.

When we wake up we have to know that the enemy is chasing us:

(1 Peter 5:8 NKJV) Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Satan goes for those who are in the back of the pack. I am thankful because ministry causes me to be in the word and prayer. Ministry is for your protection so you don't get picked off. God wants all of you in the ministry so you have to start your day off running.

Looking Around – seeing those with substance

Looking Within – seeing how full my life is compared to the emptiness of the world

Looking Down – seeing the tactics of the enemy so I start the day running

4.) Looking Back

I am thankful to be in the ministry when I look back and see lives changed by my ministry.

What a blessing to look back and see lives changed forever, for eternity, because of ministry. To watch people grow, become excited about the Lord, the things of the Lord, to watch marriages be healed, to watch addictions be kicked, to watch people be ushered into the Kingdom.....it is glorious.

People invested in me, and now it is time for me to invest in others.

Several years ago Ray Comfort invested in me, just 20 minutes, but it was worth eternity. He took 20 minutes to share some points about evangelism, which in-turn I have taught others, and people are going to spend eternity in heaven because of it. Pastor Ted Mueller took me on two mission trips, I watched and learned, not I lead missions.

You will never know what it means when you spend 30 minutes with someone sharing the truths and love of the Lord. You parents, you youth leader, you upperclassman in your school.

But now that I'm grown up, its my turn. It is time for me to do what men did for me.

(2 Timothy 2:2 NKJV) And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

Looking Around – seeing those with substance

Looking Within – seeing how full my life is compared to the emptiness of the world

Looking Down – seeing the tactics of the enemy so I start the day running

Looking Back – seeing those who I have invested in living for God

5.) Looking Ahead

I am thankful to be in the ministry when I look ahead, for when I stand before the Judgement Seat of Christ, and be judged for my service to the Lord, I will be glad that I served.

(Hebrews 6:10 NKJV) For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

(Hebrews 6:11 NKJV) And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end,

(Hebrews 6:12 NKJV) that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

Believer, there is a judgment for you to come. Not a judgment of sin and salvation, for that was paid in full on the cross. Not the white Throne judgment spoken of in Revelation 20, that is for all those who never received Jesus as Lord and Savior.

(Revelation 20:11 KJV) And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

(Revelation 20:12 KJV) And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

(Revelation 20:13 KJV) And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

(Revelation 20:14 KJV) And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

(Revelation 20:15 KJV) And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

But the Believer will face the “Bema Seat” the “Judgment Seat of Christ” and be judged according to your works here on earth.

Remember our Resurrection/Rapture Study, this passage is written to believers:

(2 Corinthians 5:8 NKJV) We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

(2 Corinthians 5:9 NKJV) Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

*(2 Corinthians 5:10 NKJV) For we must all appear before the **judgment seat of Christ**, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, **whether good or bad**.*

Again written to the Church:

(1 Corinthians 3:11 NKJV) For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

(1 Corinthians 3:12 NKJV) Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,

*(1 Corinthians 3:13 NKJV) each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; **and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is.***

(1 Corinthians 3:14 NKJV) If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.

(1 Corinthians 3:15 NKJV) If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

(1 Corinthians 9:24 NKJV) Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.

*(1 Corinthians 9:25 NKJV) And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, **but we for an imperishable crown.***

(1 Corinthians 9:26 NKJV) Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air.

(1 Corinthians 9:27 NKJV) But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

Don't show up in heaven empty-handed, with nothing to give back to Him because you used all that he gave you today, all for your own luxury. I promise you, you will regret it.

Let me ask you, if you had 25 thousand in life savings, and you went to the bank to deposit it, and right before you went to the Teller, the bank manger said I have some inside information for you,

this bank is going to close the doors tomorrow bankrupt, and claim all the deposits. Now you wouldn't say, well since I'm already here I might as well put it in and see what happens, you have to live for the now, no you would take the money and run to a safe deposit. Jesus said store your treasures up in heaven. Meaning that all deposits here on earth are bankrupt.

(Matthew 6:19 KJV) Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

(Matthew 6:20 KJV) But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

(Matthew 6:21 KJV) For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Be wise, invest in the things that are eternal. I'm thankful for the privilege of service, knowing that I am storing my treasures in heaven.

Looking Around – seeing those with substance

Looking Within – seeing how full my life is compared to the emptiness of the world

Looking Down – seeing the tactics of the enemy so I start the day running

Looking Back – seeing those who I have invested in living for God

Looking Ahead – seeing the Judgment Seat that is to come

6.) Looking Out:

I am thankful to be in the ministry when I look out, for there are people hurting around us.

(Matthew 9:37 KJV) Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;

(Matthew 9:38 KJV) Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

True Story: September 28, 1985, New Orleans: A celebration party was held for the 200 public-waters lifeguards with spouses (400 total). They were being honored for the feat of nobody had drowned in the public-waters that year, for the first time in the history of the city. As they closed up the pool, they found hotel attendant Jerome Moody age 31, drowned at the bottom of the pool, in the midst of 200 lifeguards.

As they celebrated, they missed the need right behind them. Many Christians are celebrating their salvation – as we should, while they miss all the people drowning around them – dead spiritually. There are people all around us who are drowning in sin, depression and discouragement, who are ready to hear the gospel: in their neighborhood, at your work, in your school.

Paul will say to Timothy in the second letter – do the work of an evangelist

(2 Timothy 4:5 NKJV) But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

(2 Timothy 4:6 NKJV) For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand.

(2 Timothy 4:7 NKJV) I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

(2 Timothy 4:8 NKJV) Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

If you have ever lead someone to the Lord you know, there is nothing on this earth that can compare to the joyful, exhalation of leading someone to Christ. We are all capable of doing the work of the evangelist.

I meet people who tell me they want to be a missionary, the first thing I ask them is have they told their next-door neighbor. Leonard Ravenhill said, a missionary isn't someone who crosses the sea, but someone who sees the cross. He also said, don't cross the sea, if you can't cross the street.

Looking Around – seeing those with substance

Looking Within – seeing how full my life is compared to the emptiness of the world

Looking Down – seeing the tactics of the enemy so I start the day running

Looking Back – seeing those who I have invested in living for God
Looking Ahead – seeing the Judgment Seat that is to come
Looking Out – seeing all the people that are hurting around us

7.) Looking Up

I am thankful to be in the ministry when I look Up, not to heaven, but to the Cross. When I see Jesus broken, beaten, crucified.....for me, I see real love poured out, and why.

(2 Corinthians 5:14 NKJV) For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; (2 Corinthians 5:15 NKJV) and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.

Why do I do this, because I become more like my Jesus. As I become more like Jesus, I have to minister, it becomes my nature. I remember when I first began doing ministry, evangelizing and teaching Sunday school. People would say why do you want to do that, and I'd say because the Bible says to witness, which is true. I would say I don't want the kids to make the same mistake I made, all true. But now years later, I really don't say for this reason and that, as true as they are, but NOW I really just finding myself doing these things naturally, because these are the things Jesus would do, and I am now becoming like him myself.

I am thankful for that. Don't grow weary of doing well, be thankful for the ministry.

Looking Around – seeing those with substance
Looking Within – seeing how full my life is compared to the emptiness of the world
Looking Down – seeing the tactics of the enemy so I start the day running
Looking Back – seeing those who I have invested in living for God
Looking Ahead – seeing the Judgment Seat that is to come
Looking Out – seeing all the people that are hurting around us
Looking Up – Seeing Jesus on the Cross, and I'm becoming more like Him

As we study these next three letters, we will be more equipped for the ministry.

(2 Thessalonians 3:13 KJV) But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing.

Chapter 1

The Church and its Message

The Book of Timothy, written around 64-67AD. Paul the aged and experienced apostle writes to the young Pastor Timothy. As Paul would establish churches and move on, we read that he would often leave Timothy behind to help those churches in their growth. As we will read this letter, we will see that although Timothy is in Leadership, he still struggles with how to handle certain situations, he is still growing in his own maturity, and in leadership. I believe this book is applicable to all of us in some way or another because we are in the ministry in some form or fashion.

Paul writes to Timothy so that he may know how the church is to function.

The Theme of this letter:

(1 Timothy 3:14 NKJV) These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly;

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(1 Timothy 3:16 NKJV) And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

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Paul will instruct Timothy how the church is to function, but understand this, the church is both corporately, and individually. The things taught in this book are for us as a group, the church and its four walls, and for us individually, for we are the temple of God, we are the body of Christ, the sum of individuals make up the Church Body.

These books (1&2 Timothy and Titus) have been called the Pastoral Epistles. For they help instruct ministers on how to serve in the ministry.

The second theme of this book, is chapter 1, verse 12:

(1 Timothy 1:12 NKJV) And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,

Being in the ministry is a gift from God, not a burden, be thankful to be called. Glean from this book so that you may be a faithful minister.

So, First Timothy: The Church and It's Message.

(1 Timothy 1:1 NKJV) Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the commandment of God our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ, our hope,

Here Paul says by the commandment of God, in Second Timothy 1:1, Paul said by the will of God quite a contrast. One carries the idea of "this is what I want for you", the other carries the idea of, "this is what I demand of you". I find this true in the ministry and my personal life. I enjoy the will of God in ministry when everything is going great and falling right in place, and I find myself saying ohh Lord thank you so much for counting me worthy and placing me in the ministry, it so exciting watching and being a part of what you are doing, and just on the sidelines watching.

However, there are many of times where I am brought to a remembrance that ministry is also a command, not a suggestion:

(Matthew 28:18 NKJV) And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

(Matthew 28:19 NKJV) "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

(Matthew 28:20 NKJV) "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

When I grow weary of doing good, when ministry isn't going well, when things are not falling into place, when everything seems like a struggle, and I want to check-out for awhile, then I am brought into the remembrance, "by the commandment of God."

The same holds true in our personal lives; when the marriage is going great, money is flowing in from employment, my classes are a breeze; it is all by the will of God and gifts from Him. But when the marriage is tough and you feel imprisoned, when the money could be better but you can't move because of family or ministry commitments, when school seems like a waste of time, then that is when you have to say, John still married by the commandment of God, John still working here by the commandment of God, and John finishing school by the commandment of God.

When I live by the command of God, then I have hope. I can say, Lord you put me here, therefore I know you are working, I can have peace in the trying times.

Paul is writing a struggling Pastor to remind him that sometimes it by the will of God, sometimes it by the commandment of God; Paul uses commandment to start this letter out, he is sending the message to Timothy and us, quitting is not an option, neither is compromise.

(1 Timothy 1:2 NKJV) To Timothy, a true son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

Grace, mercy, and peace:

Some simple definitions:

Grace – getting what you don't deserve. We deserve nothing from God, yet in His grace He pours His love out upon us,

Mercy – is not getting what you deserved. Our sins sentenced us to hell, but God's love on the cross gave us eternal life.

Peace – At one with God, the issue of sin and separation was dealt with on the cross, you are no longer at war with Him because your sin offended the Holy God.

These are words as they relate to our relationship with Christ, but they carry-over and apply in our inter-personal lives also. You know over and over I have been taught that this is a typical Pauline greeting, grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, but this time I really noticed different, I noticed the heart of Paul, and desired to be the same.

You see when Paul met people, whether new or old acquaintances, the first thing he wanted to flow from him to them, was grace, mercy and peace. That when Paul met someone they would know that love was waiting for them, that they were not going to be judged, and that they would be received regardless of who they are. As soon as you met Paul, you would feel comfortable.

I say this often, but let this be the church, let us be the person, that will be the last stop. People will hear about this church or you, and say this is my last stop, my last shot, if I'm not accepted here, or not accepted by him/her, I'll never be accepted anywhere – I'll just give up on this whole religion thing.

I asked myself this, and need to ask myself this on every greeting I give someone; is grace, mercy, and peace what precedes me, and flows from me? Do people feel accepted and

comfortable when they meet with me. Grace, mercy, and peace, may that always be our interface with the world and within the church.

To Timothy, a true son in the faith:

You know another thing I see here in this verse, Paul wasn't always perfect in his ministry, but love conquers all.

There was a beautiful special bond between Paul and Timothy, a special Father Son relationship. Paul would say of Timothy:

(1 Timothy 1:2 NKJV) To Timothy, a true son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

(2 Timothy 1:2 NKJV) To Timothy, a beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

However they did have their "cutting" moment which could have altered their future relationship to be a negative one, but love conquers all.

I think it is the nature of parents to look back and say, if I might have done this differently, if only I would have done this instead, then my child wouldn't struggle with this, or fallen into that. If only I would have spent more time with them, went and played catch more, or didn't give him that.....a parent can load themselves down with guilt looking back at past failures or missed opportunities. Guess what parents, you are in some great company, with the Apostle Paul.

The Apostle Paul, the greatest Apostle, second only to Jesus in Evangelism, the great Church planter. He penned the book on how marriages should be (Ephesians), how to raise children (Ephesians), how singles should behave (1 Corinthians), the list goes on, but he made one of his worse errors, with his beloved son, Timothy.

We read the story in Acts 16:1-3:

(Acts 16:1 NKJV) Then he came to Derbe and Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a certain Jewish woman who believed, but his father was Greek.

(Acts 16:2 NKJV) He was well spoken of by the brethren who were at Lystra and Iconium.

*(Acts 16:3 NKJV) Paul wanted to have him go on with him. **And he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews** who were in that region, for they all knew that his father was Greek.*

(Acts 16:4 NKJV) And as they went through the cities, they delivered to them the decrees to keep, which were determined by the apostles and elders at Jerusalem.

Ouch, what a price to pay to do missions with Paul. Here at this church all you have to do is pay your way, how small would the mission teams be today if this were a requirement. The sad statement in this verse is verse three, *because of the Jews*. Because Paul was worried about the Jews, he made Timothy suffer pain, Timothy was probably 15-17 years old. Paul's fear of the Jews made Timothy suffer. Paul will later teach against such foolishness in Galatians, but a little late for Timothy.

(Galatians 5:5 NKJV) For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

(Galatians 5:6 NKJV) For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.

You know we always look at Paul as if he hit the ground running, was an instant mature minister with all the answers and how-to's, but we see here that he wasn't.

Parents, you will make mistakes, sometime in fear of doing wrong, sometimes in just not knowing any better; but you are not failures, God is not upset with you, and though you children may be upset, it will only be temporary, for love conquers all. Take your mistakes and go help someone today, find a place to share your mistakes with someone else so they won't make the same. Their kids will thank you.

Paul calls Timothy a “beloved son”. Timothy never stopped loving Paul, he never stopped following Paul, love conquers all.

I, you, we also should take comfort in this in that as I grow in the ministry, I’ll make mistakes, but God’s love conquers all, and He will fix and heal my mistakes.

Now the rest of chapter 1, will cover the following areas in reference to “the Church and its Message”

- 1.) The Loss of Truth and Simplicity (v. 3-7)
- 2.) The Law of God (v. 8-11)
- 3.) The Love of God (v. 12-17)
- 4.) The Life of Faith (v. 18-21)

1.) The Loss of Truth and Simplicity

Paul charges Timothy to teach no other doctrine, then the simple truths. The Message we give to the world and teach in the church has to be clear and simple.

(1 Timothy 1:3 NKJV) As I urged you when I went into Macedonia; remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine, (1 Timothy 1:4 NKJV) nor give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which cause disputes rather than godly edification which is in faith.

You students and teachers don’t look for something new or intriguing, just stick to the simplicity of the Scriptures. Only teach what already has been taught. These guys where coming into Timothy area and teaching all kinds of bizarre things; they took fables and tried to spiritualize them into the Scriptures, they took the genealogies in the Old Testament and tried to make up some prophecy. They where trying to be clever in their teaching to prove how spiritual they were to the people. The sad part is people then and people today are drawn to these things because they lose interest in the Word, and look for something to excite them.

Some time ago while visiting a town I use to live in, a man I met who loved the Lord, had a love for the lost, who almost daily he went out on the street to hand out tracts and witness. Well I was with some close friends of mine (visiting again) when he came walking by, so I called him over and we started to talk about the Good News, he was sharing some powerful truths about the gift of salvation. I’m saying to myself, this is awesome, he lives in the area, he will always be seeing my friends, finally someone who will always be dropping a few spiritual seeds here and there. My friends were really listening, but then, for whatever reason, he started to talk about conspiracy theories and oil for blood, and instantly he lost them, they turned from him and walked away. My heart was broken.

Gang, stay away from theories and conjectures, and stick to the solid Word of God.

(2 Timothy 2:15 KJV) Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

(2 Timothy 2:16 KJV) But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

Take the simple truths and pass them out, pass them along. You who desire to be teachers, take this note from me, give it up. Give it up on trying to find something new, cleaver, exciting. As the saying goes, if it is new, it is not from God.

(2 Timothy 2:2 NKJV) And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

Take the things you hear from experienced teachers, test them against the Scriptures as told in Acts 17:11, and then go give it out. You are accountable to what you give out, so search the Scriptures and make sure what you hear is true and accurate.

(Acts 17:11 NKJV) These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.

You may say and think, well isn't that plagiarism, no, it is discipleship. Take the truths you have learned, and share them with your co-workers, kids, family, on the street, or the Bible Study you teach. If something reaches your heart (you can't give out what doesn't reach your heart), and testifies to the Scriptures, then give it out, add your flavor to it and make it your own.

(1 Timothy 1:5 NKJV) Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith,
(1 Timothy 1:6 NKJV) from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk,
(1 Timothy 1:7 NKJV) desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.

You will stray from the truth and simplicity when you stray from these:

from a pure heart

A pure heart means you have narrowed your focus on 1 thing – God. Let your focus stray onto other things and so will the truth, and you will quit living to the truth and your heart will become impure.

good conscience

Consensus asks the question: Is it popular? Conscience asks: Is it right? If you are teaching the word straight-up, living it obediently, you can rest your head on your pillow at night knowing you did the will of God, and that God is pleased with you.

from sincere faith

Faith that is real, not phony. You can read a phony Christian a mile away, they tell you their stories and excuses for doing this and doing that. Why tell excuses to other Christians, who cares what they think of you, you need to worry what God thinks of you.

from which some, having strayed

There will always be something rising up in the church, people will argue over foolish doctrines. You just preach the Word in truth and simplicity. Stay away from those getting into all these theories and new Christian fads, they will lead you to an impure heart.

desiring to be teachers of the law

(James 3:1 NKJV) My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.

As I said before, go teach, take what reaches your heart, add your flavor to it and give it out. But don't teach/share over your level, don't be afraid to say I'll get back to you on that. You young ones, if your friends are asking stuff you can't answer, then just say I don't know what don't you come with me on Thursdays.

True Story: A Russian woman with two kids was worried that she was going to miss her stop at Donesk, when the train conductor came around she said will you tell me when we reach my destination, I am afraid to miss it. The conductor politely obliged her. Across from her was a business man reading his paper, he said madam, don't worry, the conductor gets busy, but I know what stop it is and I will make sure you get off. So they travel some time, come to a stop, and the business man said this is your stop, so the young mother de-boards and the train rolls on. About an hour later the conductor come to the cabin, where is the young lady, and the business man rather proudly says she got off at Donesk, I helped her. The conductor said that wasn't Donesk, this is Donesk, that last stop was a stop for water and fuel, all that is back there is frozen tundra. So the they doubled back the hour, only to find the woman frozen death.

Be careful about teaching/sharing above your level, you may tell someone to get off on the wrong stop, even if you had all good intentions.

2.) The Law of God

The Message we live and give can not be apart from the law of God, but also given in the love of God. These desirous teachers used the Law to beat the sheep, not for grace, mercy, and peace. It was legalism, guilt trips, fire and brimstones. People get saved by grace and then put themselves under the Law, a bunch of rules and regulation, and then they want to put everyone else under their trip. I'd rather deal with a wretched sinner than a legalistic person any day for they will drain the life right out of you. The law is good, but it has to be applied correctly:

(1 Timothy 1:7 NKJV) desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.

(1 Timothy 1:8 NKJV) But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully,

(1 Timothy 1:9 NKJV) knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,

(1 Timothy 1:10 NKJV) for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine,

(1 Timothy 1:11 NKJV) according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust.

These teachers were looking at the Law, and saying well I've quit doing that and that, my my how spiritual I am. And then they would become self-righteous. They thought it was their works that made them right before the Lord.

(Ephesians 2:8 NKJV) For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, (Ephesians 2:9 NKJV) not of works, lest anyone should boast.

(Titus 3:5 NKJV) not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,

(Titus 3:6 NKJV) whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

(Titus 3:7 NKJV) that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

The Law shows us our need for a Savior.

(Galatians 3:24 NKJV) Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

(Galatians 3:25 NKJV) But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

Contrary to today's society ways, we are not OK, we are sinners who need a Savior. The world calls it a disease or that was the way you were born, but the Law shows us who we really are, and that we are not OK in and of ourselves.

(James 2:10 NKJV) For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.

that the law is not made for a righteous person

Paul is saying the law is for those who are walking in the flesh, not caring about the things of God, not having a pure heart. But you Christians don't get too overboard on the grace thing:

(1 Corinthians 6:9 NKJV) Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites,

(1 Corinthians 6:10 NKJV) nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

3.) The Love of God

The Message of the Church has to be given and lived in love. We have received this message in love, and continue to live in His love. Our God loves us, He loves you.

(1 Timothy 1:12 NKJV) And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,
(1 Timothy 1:13 NKJV) although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.
(1 Timothy 1:14 NKJV) And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

God put me in the ministry either as grace or a mistake, Paul was all these, yet God still called him and used him in the ministry. You can't take a test to be in the ministry, God puts you in the ministry. Your past doesn't matter, no matter how bad or good, God will use it and work with it.

Paul is saying I was sincere when I was persecuting the Christians, I was ignorant, I was sincerely wrong. We can be like that. We can be doing things in our life that we think are totally right, yet be totally wrong. We need to sit in the quietness of the day and lift everything we are doing up to the Lord for examination, and then have that period where we sit and listen for His direction. It is so easy to ask the Lord to bless these things, but never ask Him if they are correct.

We can work 80 hours because we think the extra money is best for the family, and maybe it is, but it might just be ruining/straining your marriage, and drawing your kids away from you, and into the life of hanging out with the wrong people. Our career aspirations, even our ministries, we have to examine them and say is this what you want for me Lord.

(1 Timothy 1:15 NKJV) This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.
(1 Timothy 1:16 NKJV) However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.

Paul is now aged in years, and he is now the Chief of sinners. You recall he went from being the least of the apostles, to the least of the saints, to now the chief of sinners.

(1 Corinthians 15:9 NKJV) For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

(Ephesians 3:8 NKJV) To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,

The closer I get to the Lord, the more I see and realize His holiness and purity; and thus the more I see my impurity and wretchedness.

Jesus came into the world to save sinners

Jesus is seeking you, that one lost sheep. You may think He didn't seek you, but He did

as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.

As a pattern, a pattern to prove to other people that God will save anyone.

Pattern - hupotuposis, hoop-ot-oo'-o-sis; typification under (after), i.e. (concr.) a sketch (fig.) for imitation:--form, pattern.

We are an imitation of Christ, He is the real thing, we are just an imitation of Him. This word pattern also means "sketch", I like that. At work the engineers are making sketches (blueprints) of things we are going to build, and we use the blueprint (sketches/drawings) to make copies. We pass the blueprint down to the factory floor and say make us 1000 copies exactly to this blueprint.

That is what is being said about us, we are the blueprint, and then people see that blueprint and say yes that is what I want to be. In the context, we are all made from the original blueprint – Jesus Christ, and the copies keep getting made from there.

Put this image in your mind, and will change the way you live when you realize that you are a blueprint in a sense for other copies to be made. The question and challenge is this, what types of copies are being made from your blueprint.

(1 Timothy 1:17 NKJV) Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Paul can't contain himself and breaks out into spontaneous Praise for the God of Glory.

4.) The Life of Faith

The Message of the Church has to be lived out in Faith by the messenger.

(1 Timothy 1:18 NKJV) This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare,

(1 Timothy 1:19 NKJV) having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck,

(1 Timothy 1:20 NKJV) of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.

I like the NIV version:

(1 Timothy 1:18 NIV) Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by following them you may fight the good fight,

Timothy, keep on keeping on, don't quit. Don't let God put you on a shelf, He will if that is what you want, but you will never experience His glory, kabowd, because you will be too far from where His glory shows Himself.

according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare,

Why does it seem that so many people are just meandering, never fully getting. It could be because they have never received a word of prophecy and direction from an elder personally. I know the power of the Lord, and when he shows me something about you, I tell you so that we can start to develop that in you, and increase you faith and your walk. If you ever wonder why I may seem like I am pushing you a little hard sometimes, it is because I want to see you grow in that word that God has given concerning you. I do not want you to be meandering, I want you to fulfill your calling.

Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan

What they did we do not know. There is a time to turn them over to Satan, it is Biblical. The hope is that after had his way with them, they would be purged. It is not a punitive punishment, but a purity one.

Timothy Chapter 1, "the Church and its Message"

1. The Loss of Truth and Simplicity (v. 3-7)
2. The Law of God (v. 8-11)
3. The Love of God (v. 12-17)
4. The Life of Faith (v. 18-21)

All so we may fight the good fight, and that grace, mercy, and peace will flow from us.

Chapter 2

The Church and its Members

The Book of Timothy, written around 64-67AD. Paul the aged and experienced apostle writes to the young Pastor Timothy. As Paul would establish churches and move on, we read that he would often leave Timothy behind to help those churches in their growth. As we will read this letter, we will see that although Timothy is in Leadership, he still struggles with how to handle certain situations, he is still growing in his own maturity, and in leadership. I believe this book is applicable to all of us in some way or another because we are in the ministry in some form or fashion.

Paul writes to Timothy so that he may know how the church is to function.

The Theme of this letter:

(1 Timothy 3:14 NKJV) These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly;

(1 Timothy 3:15 NKJV) but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

(1 Timothy 3:16 NKJV) And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

The Outline:

The Church and its Message – Chapter 1

The Church and its Members – Chapter 2 & 3

The Church and its Minister – Chapter 4

The Church and its Ministry to Itself – Chapter 5

The Church and its Motives – Chapter 6

Paul will instruct Timothy how the church is to function, but understand this, the church is both corporately, and individually. The things taught in this book are for us as a group, the church and its four walls, and for us individually, for we are the temple of God, we are the body of Christ, the sum of individuals make up the Church Body.

These books (1&2 Timothy and Titus) have been called the Pastoral Epistles. For they help instruct ministers on how to serve in the ministry.

The second theme of this book, is chapter 1, verse 12:

(1 Timothy 1:12 NKJV) And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,

Being in the ministry is a gift from God, not a burden, be thankful to be called. Glean from this book so that you may be a faithful minister.

Chapter 2, The Church and its Members.

We start with verse 18 of chapter one for context.

(1 Timothy 1:18 NKJV) This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare,

(1 Timothy 1:19 NKJV) having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck,

(1 Timothy 1:20 NKJV) of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.

Suffered Shipwreck – these two men had quit fighting the good fight, they have left the faith. How could this happen?

(Titus 2:11 NIV) For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men.

(Titus 2:12 NIV) It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age,

Don't take the grace of God for granted. We all have some legalism in us, so be legalistic with yourself in a sense, but gracious with others. Grace, mercy, and peace as we spoke of in the last study. The danger for taking grace for granted is that we miss the warning signs.

We can examine some hearts of the Kings of Israel. Saul heart, well Saul had no heart for God, he was very self-centered. David's heart, he had a whole heart for God, he was very servant-centered. Solomon was half-hearted for God for he was stuff-centered for God. Yet each one started so strong, two of them strayed, and only one of them stayed.

Learn the lessons from their mistakes. Brothers and sisters are being shipwrecked yearly and it hurts and is painful to see. The carnage is ugly, it is heartbreaking. People who started off so strong, gifted, empowered, trusted, and yet ship-wrecked.

(1 Samuel 13:13 NKJV) And Samuel said to Saul, "You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God, which He commanded you. For now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever.

(1 Samuel 13:14 NKJV) "But now your kingdom shall not continue. The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you."

For Saul the commandments had become suggestions. When the ship wrecks, you say Lord how did I find myself here? Because you ignored the signs or just plain missed them....rocks ahead, shallow water.....

While in Ireland we saw the most awesome cliffs above the sea. They were called the Cliffs of Moher, a couple hundred feet high above the sea. We were told that in spite of the signs and warnings not to go outside of the railing, people do, and at least two people a year lose their footing and fall to their deaths. The signs were there, but they ignored the signs.

Again:

(Titus 2:11 NIV) For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men.

(Titus 2:12 NIV) It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age,

How do we stay in the narrow, keep the ship on course, by picking up the winds of the Holy Spirit and set a course onward.

In this chapter will see and study the 5 things a "Christians Heart" should be.

1. The Christian Heart should be a Searchable Heart. (v1-2)
2. The Christian Heart should be a Broken Heart. (v3-4)
3. The Christian Heart should be a Confident Heart. (v5-8)
4. The Christian Heart should be an Ordered Heart. (v9-14)
5. The Christian Heart should be a Hopeful Heart. (v15)

1.) The Christian Heart should be a Searchable Heart.

(1 Timothy 2:1 NKJV) Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,

(1 Timothy 2:2 NKJV) for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

We are called to pray but we can't pray effectively unless our hearts are laid bare before the Lord. Any part of your heart you are hiding or protecting, the Lord can't be effective in that area.

*(Psalms 139:23 KJV) Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:
(Psalms 139:24 KJV) And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.*

wicked ways – means any idol, anything that divides. Simply anything that divides us from God.

*(Psa 66:18 KJV) If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:
(Psa 66:19 KJV) But verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer.
(Psa 66:20 KJV) Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me.*

We need to ask, Lord is there anything that is dividing me from you. Are there areas of my life that I am not giving to you that displease you. Do you ever ask the Lord what is it about me, that bothers people. Do I ask Him to show me. How can I reach someone if there is something about me that bothers them.

There is a place in prayer to say Lord speak to me, show me, talk to me, tell me the things that are displeasing to you. A time for you to be quiet and listen to the Lord.

You see to be a praying man/woman, we have to be searchable, so our prayers will become unhindered. We are to be a pattern/blueprint of God, and if our hearts are not searchable, then God can't change us in our prayer time.

When we are right, then we can come before Him with our requests, needs and intercession. Prayer isn't a law thing, it is a love thing. We can and get to fellowship with our Creator, we say search me and know me, I want to go your way not my way, I want to be your pattern, your blueprint.

How do you know if you are on your way to being shipwrecked? You will quit praying, you will quit giving thanks (rather complain about what you don't have).

Also note we are to pray for our leaders because they are ordained by God. To complain about them is to complain about God. God is giving the world what they want, to be ruled by man, rather than God, and they pain that these men bring are a result of a world that has rejected God as their king. We as Christians are to see these things, and be compelled to point the world back to God.

*(Rom 13:1 NIV) Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.
(Rom 13:2 NIV) Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.
(Rom 13:3 NIV) For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you.
(Rom 13:4 NIV) For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.*

*(1 Sam 8:6 NIV) But when they said, "Give us a king to lead us," this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the LORD.
(1 Sam 8:7 NIV) And the LORD told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king.
(1 Sam 8:8 NIV) As they have done from the day I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you.
(1 Sam 8:9 NIV) Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will do."*

2.) The Christian Heart should be a Broken Heart.

(1 Timothy 2:3 NKJV) For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,

(1 Timothy 2:4 NKJV) who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

What is that breaks your heart? Once you pray you can no longer be a by-stander, prayer moves you into action. When you search you become more like Jesus, and your heart will break at the ravages of sin in both your life and those around you. Your sin will break your heart because you have again bruised the heart of God. You will not be able to stand by and watch people perish, you can't laugh with them as sex and drugs destroy their life and family. You will have to do something about it.

We see an example in the life of Nehemiah:

(Nehemiah 1:3 NKJV) And they said to me, "The survivors who are left from the captivity in the province are there in great distress and reproach. The wall of Jerusalem is also broken down, and its gates are burned with fire."

(Nehemiah 1:4 NKJV) So it was, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned for many days; I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.

(Nehemiah 1:11 NKJV) "O Lord, I pray, please let Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your servant, and to the prayer of Your servants who desire Your name; and let Your servant prosper this day, I pray, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man." For I was the king's cupbearer.

(Nehemiah 2:2 NKJV) Therefore the king said to me, "Why is your face sad, since you are not sick? This is nothing but sorrow of heart." So I became dreadfully afraid,

(Nehemiah 2:3 NKJV) and said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' tombs, lies waste, and its gates are burned with fire?"

(Nehemiah 2:4 NKJV) Then the king said to me, "What do you request?" So I prayed to the God of heaven.

(Nehemiah 2:5 NKJV) And I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, I ask that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' tombs, that I may rebuild it."

Nehemiah heard the condition of his city and couldn't stand it, something had to be done, the broken walls broke his heart, as He prayed God moved in his heart to do something about it.

He heard the conditions of the walls, and to be able to restore them he knew it would take someone who knew the proceedings of Medo-Persian government and had access to the King. Nehemiah was that man. The Lord will do that as you walk around your community. You will see things that you will be in the position of the world to change, and through prayer your heart will be put in the position to desire to do something about it.

My heart breaks for this county and area, I can't stand seeing the people lead away in sin, family's destroyed, lives ruined. So much so that I want to reach out to them through the Word of God, we are going to start a Sunday Service to reach them, and invite you to join in this mission field. God planted me here with a residence, took me through Bible College before that, and then God showed me the broken walls of these peoples heart as I prayed to Him, and now He says do something with all these things I have given you.

What is that God has given you to change your world? Are you a skater? Are you asking why do I work here? Softball team, karate club, car enthusiast, arts and crafts, then use them like Nehemiah did, ask God to break your heart of the things that break His, and He will show you things inside of these things.

who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

This is what breaks God's heart, the lost.

Go for the lost. Many of you want to serve because you were lost and can't stand to see others lost. That's great, you are an imitation of the Master Blueprint Jesus Christ, who wishes that none should perish.

3.) The Christian Heart should be a Confident Heart

(1 Timothy 2:5 NKJV) For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,

(1 Timothy 2:6 NKJV) who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,

(1 Timothy 2:7 NKJV) for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle; I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying; a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

(1 Timothy 2:8 NKJV) I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;

This verse is freedom, have confidence in this verse, you can rest from your works, Christ has done it all. Memorize this verse; there is only one mediator between God and Man, which is Christ Jesus. There is no in-between man in a booth; there is no saint to pray to, no Mary to pray to, Jesus and Him only.

Yes man needs a mediator between Him and God, because God is holy and pure, and sinful man can not come into the presence of a holy and pure God, even Job said that:

(Job 9:32 NIV) "He is not a man like me that I might answer him, that we might confront each other in court.

(Job 9:33 NIV) If only there were someone to arbitrate between us, to lay his hand upon us both,

Jesus is the only mediator between God and man:

(John 14:6 KJV) Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

(Eph 2:8 KJV) For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

(Eph 2:9 KJV) Not of works, lest any man should boast.

(Titus 3:5 KJV) Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

(Titus 3:6 KJV) Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;

(Titus 3:7 KJV) That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

For some reason many in this world are not confident in the fact that through Christ they have direct access to God, because of the finished work of Christ on the Cross we can freely come before God, we need not go through another man. Let me just ask you, I imagine there is all something we want changed in this government, if you could go to the White House, would you rather talk to Cheney or Bush? We get to talk to the President of the Universe. Why would you ever rob yourself of that?

When we come before God Jesus is saying he is ok, he is with me. If you go to my parents house with me, you will automatically be received because you are with me, if you knock on their door without me, having never met them, you won't make it past the front door, the same is true with our Heavenly Father, we are automatically received by Him because we are with His Son. You try to come to the Father with anyone else, you won't make it past the front door. No priest, politician, or family member can get you through the door.

How about Mary the mother of Jesus, to avoid dispute, even Mary went Jesus. The last spoken words of Mary were, "whatever He says to you, do it."

(John 2:3 NKJV) And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine."

(John 2:4 NKJV) Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come."

*(John 2:5 NKJV) His mother said to the servants, "**Whatever He says to you, do it.**"*

What does Jesus say? Follow me:

(Mat 16:24 KJV) Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

(John 10:27 KJV) My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

(John 10:28 KJV) And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

We need to be confident of this, knowing that we can come into His presence at anytime because of the finished work of the cross. We can stretch out our hands to Him, because He first stretched out His arms.

I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;

Now therefore, He is the mediator, we are the intercessor, not the mediator. Rest in this, and you will rest. When we see that we are just the intercessor, and it is Jesus role to Mediate, then we are free to just intercede in prayer without the stress that it is something to do with us, or relies on us.

When we see it is all the Lord, then we can come in confidence into the prayer room knowing He is able to all that will ask Him to do.

(Ephesians 3:20 KJV) Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

(Ephesians 3:21 KJV) Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

When David fought his giant, he went in power, not weakness. He know God was more than able to deliver his foe.

(1 Samuel 17:43 NKJV) So the Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.

(1 Samuel 17:44 NKJV) And the Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!"

(1 Samuel 17:45 NKJV) Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

(1 Samuel 17:46 NKJV) "This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

(1 Samuel 17:47 NKJV) "Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's, and He will give you into our hands."

He didn't say ok Goliath, stand still there, I'm gona try this, hope this works, here we go, this one is for the Lord. No, David said hey Goliath, guess what, today you're a dead man.

(Psalms 65:5 NKJV) By awesome deeds in righteousness You will answer us, O God of our salvation, You who are the confidence of all the ends of the earth, And of the far-off seas;

(Psalms 65:6 NKJV) Who established the mountains by His strength, Being clothed with power;

When we pray, intercede, come in confidence with no doubting, knowing that God is more than able to do all that ask.

4.) The Christian Heart should be an Ordered Heart

Here we have order in the family, and order in the church. You have to maintain priority of doing what matters most. Loss of order will cause you to stray from a pure heart.

(1 Timothy 1:5 NKJV) Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith,

from a pure heart - A pure heart means you have narrowed your focus on 1 thing – God. Let your focus stray onto other things and so will the truth, and you will quit living to the truth and your heart will become impure.

**(1 Timothy 2:9 NKJV) in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing,
(1 Timothy 2:10 NKJV) but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.**

When you don't focus on the things that matter, it is only a few years before things are going astray. When I see a sister who is consumed by outward appearance, I know this is a sister who isn't focused on the inside of her heart. Woman who focus on the outward beauty, she robs herself because she gets special attention and favors that take away from her developing inside.

It says modest apparel, it doesn't say homely apparel, it doesn't say no make-up. Modestly means tastefully, as not to draw attention. I guess simply, my question to women is would you want another women dressing like you around your husband or boyfriend. If she dressed like you, would you be comfortable around her. For me, when I have to turn my head to talk to a sister because I can see down her shirt, I feel she is not adorning herself modestly and is drawing attention to that area. As for make-up, J. Vernon McGee said it best, if the barn needs painting, then paint it.

**(1 Timothy 2:11 NKJV) Let a woman learn in silence with all submission.
(1 Timothy 2:12 NKJV) And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence.**

It is the Order God has established, it is not that woman are not to teach, but not to teach over men. In Titus woman are called to teach other woman how to keep their family and love their husband and children.

(Titus 2:3 KJV) The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;

(Titus 2:4 KJV) That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,

(Titus 2:5 KJV) To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

If a woman teaches over a man, than that same order will carry over into the family and there will be confusion and struggle in the family. God has ordained it that the man is to be the leader of the church and home.

Let me say this about men and woman in the church and in the marriage. Equal in importance, difference in performance. God wants us to see the order of priorities in the church and marriage. If a man does what God calls him to do, and the woman the same, then we will both be effective and successful in all that we do.

And men I ask you this, how would you like to follow you if you were your wife. Is it a pleasure to follow you, or a burden? Are you leading or driving your family deeper into Christ.

**(1 Timothy 2:13 NKJV) For Adam was formed first, then Eve.
(1 Timothy 2:14 NKJV) And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.**

Notice Adam sinned, Eve was tricked. Women are more emotional than men, therefore their emotions can lead them to be deceived. Elderly woman are the number one prey of scammers because they are so trusting. The order is that men are to lead because they are more on facts than feeling. So there is a beautiful balance, men are more just the facts, which can make them kinda of insensitive, but when balanced with a woman's sensitivity you have a beautiful balance, that is why the woman is called the Helpmate.

Sadly, because men are more of just the facts, they are more likely to chase the career and material things, and be light on the spiritual things, It is obvious that woman are more spiritual than men, look around and you see it is the woman that seeks after the spiritual things and the man kinda works them in where he can . Men you must recognize these things, you have to have that searchable heart and ask the Lord to change those things in you.

Question, where was Adam when Eve was being deceived by Satan. Why was Eve exploring spiritual things without Adam. Adam left her vulnerable and exposed because he wasn't there to protect her. Men it is your responsibility to protect your wife in the spiritual matters, you are to lead her into the deeper truths and relationship with the Lord. I remember a pastor telling the story of a little boy in his bookstore who wanted a Bible just like mommy, not daddy's, when asked why he said mommy's is more interesting because she is always reading hers, but daddy never reads his.

The Christian Heart should be a Hopeful Heart

Paul is saying if you do all these things then everything will be ok.

(1 Timothy 2:15 NKJV) Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.

It is not that she would be saved in childbearing, we just read there is only one mediator, one way to God, and that is through Christ Jesus. But that she would not die in childbirth (although childbirth will be painful due to the fall), and although everyone is born with the sin nature, salvation is still available to all who would receive it.

(John 3:16 KJV) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

(John 3:17 KJV) For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

(Gen 3:16 KJV) Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

If there is one thing we as believers can do, that is spread hope in the hopeless times. We communicate hope by giving hope, by trusting someone, by giving another chance.

This verse is saying just because your father was a drunk doesn't mean you have to be, nor just because you developed a sin lifestyle doesn't mean that you can't break away from it.

If we are not hopeful, then we miscommunicate God to the world around us, because He is hope.

When we walk into a hospital room, funeral home, a person being divorced, we can come in and give them hope because we know God heals, we know God has a plan and purpose for their life, we are to represent His hope to this lost and dying world.

If we show chaos and fear, then that is what they receive. But if we show hope then that is what they receive.

1. The Christian Heart should be a Searchable Heart.
2. The Christian Heart should be a Broken Heart.
3. The Christian Heart should be a Confident Heart
4. The Christian Heart should be an Ordered Heart
5. The Christian Heart should be a Hopeful Heart.

Chapter 3

The Book of Timothy, written around 64-67AD. Paul the aged and experienced apostle writes to the young Pastor Timothy. As Paul would establish churches and move on, we read that he would often leave Timothy behind to help those churches in their growth. As we will read this letter, we will see that although Timothy is in Leadership, he still struggles with how to handle certain situations, he is still growing in his own maturity, and in leadership. I believe this book is applicable to all of us in some way or another because we are in the ministry in some form or fashion.

Paul writes to Timothy so that he may know how the church is to function.

The Theme of this letter:

(1 Timothy 3:14 NKJV) These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly;

(1 Timothy 3:15 NKJV) but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

(1 Timothy 3:16 NKJV) And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

The Outline:

The Church and its Message – Chapter 1

The Church and its Members – Chapter 2 & 3

The Church and its Minister – Chapter 4

The Church and its Ministry to Itself – Chapter 5

The Church and its Motives – Chapter 6

Paul will instruct Timothy how the church is to function, but understand this, the church is both corporately, and individually. The things taught in this book are for us as a group, the church and its four walls, and for us individually, for we are the temple of God, we are the body of Christ, the sum of individuals make up the Church Body.

These books (1&2 Timothy and Titus) have been called the Pastoral Epistles. For they help instruct ministers on how to serve in the ministry.

The second theme of this book, is chapter 1, verse 12:

(1 Timothy 1:12 NKJV) And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,

Being in the ministry is a gift from God, not a burden, be thankful to be called. Glean from this book so that you may be a faithful minister.

So, First Timothy: The Church and It's Message, part two.

Last Study we saw what the Christian heart should be:

The Christian Heart should be a Searchable Heart. (v1-2)

The Christian Heart should be a Broken Heart. (v3-4)

The Christian Heart should be a Confident Heart. (v5-8)

The Christian Heart should be an Ordered Heart. (v9-14)

The Christian Heart should be a Hopeful Heart. (v15)

This study we will see that heart in Action.

1. The Heart in Action as you Lead – 1-7
2. The Heart in Action as you Serve – 8-13

3. The Heart in Action as you Receive – 14-16

A quick overview of this chapter we see the qualifications for bishops and deacons in the church and we can quickly say well that really doesn't apply to me, but there is a twofold application for us here. First the qualifications we read here are the qualities you need to be looking for in your spiritual leaders. There are wolves out there that will only seek to devour you, to take advantage of you, not seeking you but yours. Secondly, we are leaders of some sort, and these are qualities we should desire in ourselves.

In chapter 1 we saw that we are to be blueprints, a pattern from which others are to be made and follow. If you are a parent, then you are a leader, you should be very interested in this chapter. Those of you who work in the work place, then you are a servant, and you should be interested also, you youth who play sports then here are leadership principles to take to the field. To sum it up, we are all leaders, and we are all servants, whether in the church, at the home, or in the school and work place.

In New York State some years ago, a great tightrope walker was walking across Niagara Falls. He walked across with a pole, and everyone cheered, then he walked carrying a chair, got in the middle, placed one leg of the chair on the rope, and then balanced himself on the chair, everyone cheered. He then got a small gas stove, walked out, and made himself scrambled eggs and bacon, and had ate them, the crowd cheered. Then he went to the crowd and said, who will go on my back, silence....., then a young boy said I'll go.

The Christian walk can be like that, people applaud others walking, but are afraid to go out and do it. God says I'll give you this Word, don't be afraid.

We cheer, but then we say you teach, you be the elder, you be the evangelist, you teach in Sunday school. The Christian Heart should be a heart in Action, and these are the qualities God calls for in the heart that leads and serves.

1.) The Heart in Action as you Lead

Goes back to the Christian heart should be a searchable and broken heart, as your heart breaks because of the damages of sin the Heart in action will want to Lead others out from their sin, but first knowing they have to be free from sin first.

(1 Timothy 3:1 NKJV) This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work.

Bishop –

This word is used interchangeably in the Scriptures for a Pastor, elder, or overseer.

God says if you desire to lead others, you are desiring a good thing.

(Psalms 37:4 NKJV) Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.

(Psalms 37:5 NKJV) Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.

When you delight in the Lord he will put His will in your life, and then He will begin to work that will out in your life.

(Philippians 2:13 NKJV) for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

We ask God to show us the things that break his heart, so that they break our heart, and then that results in us desiring to do something about it. Whether it is saying my child will not get sucked into this world alcohol, drugs, sex and self, or to want to feed the homeless, God will put those

desires in your heart as you ask Him to. If you don't have desires in your heart then you have to ask why, are you delighting in the Lord.

The beauty of this, Psalm 23, God says I go before you and prepare a place for you. God is always ahead of you preparing to work in those desires of your heart. When the children of Israel were in the wilderness, God would move before them, and they would follow.

(Exodus 13:21 KJV) And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:

(Exodus 13:22 KJV) He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.

Not only is that exciting, but is comforting to me. God doesn't only prepare me for the place, but the place for me. He prepares the heart of the people you are going to minister to, and He prepares your heart for them.

And now the heart for when we are there.

(1 Timothy 3:2 NKJV) A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach;

Blameless –

means not guilty of any charges made against them. We are blameless before the Father, for when Satan lays a charge against us Jesus says not guilty, washed with the blood, paid in full on the cross.

But here on earth people will charge us with all kinds of things. If 60 Minutes did an investigative report on you, would you have anything to worry about. You take care of your character and God will take care of your reputation.

the husband of one wife

Husband of one wife takes us back to the garden, it was meant to be one wife and one husband for life. Paul is writing to Timothy in Athens which was a Greek Culture, the Greek's taught that a man was to have three women: A mistress for his entertainment and intellectual conversation, a concubine for his physical satisfaction, and a wife to bear his legitimate children. Paul is saying the church leader needs to be a one-woman man. Today's application, you have to be done being cutesy, you have to be done being a flirt and a player. Pastors, elders, overseers all need to be faithful. Remember we are patterns/blueprints for others to copy.

What about divorce? Behold all things are made new:

(2 Cor 5:17 KJV) Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

(2 Cor 5:18 KJV) And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

Nor does this mean that only married men can hold the position of Pastor, Elder, overseer: Paul himself said to stay single so you can focus on the spiritual matters and not be distracted.

(1 Corinthians 7:32 NKJV) But I want you to be without care. He who is unmarried cares for the things of the Lord; how he may please the Lord.

(1 Corinthians 7:33 NKJV) But he who is married cares about the things of the world; how he may please his wife.

(1 Corinthians 7:34 NKJV) There is a difference between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman cares about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit. But she who is married cares about the things of the world; how she may please her husband.

(1 Corinthians 7:35 NKJV) And this I say for your own profit, not that I may put a leash on you, but for what is proper, and that you may serve the Lord without distraction.

(1 Corinthians 7:36 NKJV) But if any man thinks he is behaving improperly toward his virgin, if she is past the flower of youth, and thus it must be, let him do what he wishes. He does not sin; let them marry.

The greatest Pastor there ever was, was a bachelor, Jesus Christ. Gang, those of you who are not married, wait for that helpmate that will double your ministry, that will draw you closer to the Lord, not distract you from him.

hospitable,

Hospitable – means cordial and gracious. This doesn't mean you have to house everyone in need and feed every person in need. It means that people are comfortable around you, whether it is in your home or at Starbucks. They feel they can talk to you and not be judges or turned away. Remember our interface with the world, grace, mercy, and peace.

able to teach;

Do you want to love on the Lord, then go teach someone:

(John 21:15 NKJV) So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs."

(John 21:16 NKJV) He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep."

(John 21:17 NKJV) He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep."

(1 Timothy 3:3 NKJV) not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous;

Total abstinence from alcohol is not required for the Christian, but in the context here we see it is for the Leaders in the church.

Now drunkenness is forbidden for all Christians:

(1 Corinthians 6:9 NKJV) Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites,

(1 Corinthians 6:10 NKJV) nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

(1 Corinthians 6:11 NKJV) And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

What about Paul telling this Pastor Timothy to drink wine?

(1 Timothy 5:23 NKJV) No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for your stomach's sake and your frequent infirmities.

Paul is telling him this for medicinal purposes. Like in a third world country today, the water wasn't filtrated or purified, it contained many micro-organisms that would make you sick. Some stomachs could handle it, others couldn't. So they would use the alcohol from the wine to kill off the organism and make the water drinkable.

(James 1:17 NKJV) Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

Today it would be equivalent to someone saying your have the flu, take some Nyquil. Nyquil has 5% alcohol content.

Now back to the issue of drinking, Leaders the stakes are high, is that liberty really worth it.

"Authorities now know that approximately one person in sixteen who ever takes a social drink will become an alcoholic! How many of you would get on an airplane if before it took off you knew there was a 1 out of 16 chance that it would crash and destroy your life. Actually, the odds for a commercial airliner crashing are closer to 1 out of 1,000,000; but even with those odds some people will not fly. Yet many of these same people will take a drink!" - Zig Ziglar

I pray to God that Wayne never has a drop of alcohol to his lips, I don't won't him to experience all the pain that comes with it. A few months ago I met a mother at the hospital, here 19 year old hit a tree drunk, died. It didn't have to be so. Unwanted pregnancy, ruined families, affairs, it just

isn't worth it. We will read in the next part that social drinking (apart from drunkardness) is ok. So if that's your bag, you have the liberty to do so.

But why is zero alcohol a requirement for the Pastor, Elder, church Leader. We see it in the Old Testament.

(Leviticus 10:1 NKJV) Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them.

(Leviticus 10:2 NKJV) So fire went out from the LORD and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.

(Leviticus 10:3 NKJV) And Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD spoke, saying: 'By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; And before all the people I must be glorified.'" So Aaron held his peace.

(Leviticus 10:9 NKJV) "Do not drink wine or intoxicating drink, you, nor your sons with you, when you go into the tabernacle of meeting, lest you die. It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations,

(Leviticus 10:10 NKJV) "that you may distinguish between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean,

(Leviticus 10:11 NKJV) "and that you may teach the children of Israel all the statutes which the LORD has spoken to them by the hand of Moses."

Application for us, don't take in strange fire, alcohol, before we present the Lord, our minds must be totally clear. When you present you must have your mind as totally clear as possible. Ministry truly is 24/7 in the sense, you are always on call. You never know when your child may come and tell you I did drugs, or my boyfriend is pressuring, or a loved one says its terminal, or my fiancée says change of plans.

(Proverbs 23:29 NKJV) Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions? Who has complaints? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes?

(Proverbs 23:30 NKJV) Those who linger long at the wine, Those who go in search of mixed wine.

(Proverbs 23:31 NKJV) Do not look on the wine when it is red, When it sparkles in the cup, When it swirls around smoothly;

(Proverbs 23:32 NKJV) At the last it bites like a serpent, And stings like a viper.

*(Proverbs 23:33 NKJV) Your eyes will see strange things, **And your heart will utter perverse things.***

(Proverbs 23:34 NKJV) Yes, you will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea, Or like one who lies at the top of the mast, saying:

(Proverbs 23:35 NKJV) "They have struck me, but I was not hurt; They have beaten me, but I did not feel it. When shall I awake, that I may seek another drink?"

Leaders will lead people. I can remember when I quit drinking (I was saved about 2 years), I was only a social drinker at this point, quit getting drunk and just have a few beers here and there. I remember we were bowling, my buddy had given me a beer, and my back was turned facing the alley. I was getting ready to turn around and take a swig, but I felt this presence not to turn, instead I looked over my shoulder, and I saw one of my kids I taught in the 5/6th grade Sunday school, she was too shy to approach me, so she waited for me to see her. She loved me, always told me how she loved my class, I wonder what I would have taught her that day.

(Romans 14:21 NKJV) It is good neither to eat meat nor drink wine nor do anything by which your brother stumbles or is offended or is made weak.

(1 Corinthians 8:8 NIV) But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do.

(1 Corinthians 8:9 NIV) Be careful, however, that the exercise of your freedom does not become a stumbling block to the weak.

(1 Corinthians 8:10 NIV) For if anyone with a weak conscience sees you who have this knowledge eating in an idol's temple, won't he be emboldened to eat what has been sacrificed to idols?

(1 Corinthians 8:11 NIV) So this weak brother, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge.

(1 Corinthians 8:12 NIV) When you sin against your brothers in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ.

(1 Corinthians 8:13 NIV) Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause him to fall.

There are levels of usage in the ministry, and overseer (bishop) is zero alcohol, a helper (deacon) is a little alcohol. Why the higher requirements for Leaders, because they have a higher calling:

(Proverbs 31:4 NKJV) It is not for kings, O Lemuel, It is not for kings to drink wine, Nor for princes intoxicating drink;

(Proverbs 31:5 NKJV) Lest they drink and forget the law, And pervert the justice of all the afflicted.

not quarrelsome,

Not quarrelsome, means fighting back – Always leave tomorrow open for ministry. Once you revile back, get your say in, no matter how justified you may be, once you do so, you lose out on the opportunity of ministering to that person tomorrow. Once the bridge is burned, there is no coming back together.

You will always be a target if you are in the ministry and/or just being used by God. People have axes to grind, or guilt of their own sin, so they think if they can pull you down, then your counsel will be nullified. If you revile them back, then you confirm their point, damage the relationship for today and most likely tomorrow. Hold your tongue, always leave tomorrow open for ministry. People like to gossip about people, it releases them from looking at their faults while they study your faults, but one thing I know, tomorrow when their marriage is hurting, their life is hurting, it is not gossip or backbiting that will get them through it, it will be godly counsel. Your grace, mercy and peace will be an open door for them to come back and be loved and comforted. Always, always leave tomorrow open for ministry.

not covetous;

Leaders need to behave themselves around women and money, and alcohol will cloud your thinking and lead you into error.

(1 Timothy 3:4 NKJV) one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence

(1 Timothy 3:5 NKJV) (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?);

Notice here it says rule his house, and his children being obedient to him. It doesn't say that they have to be saved, for salvation is free-will, but it does say that the man rules the house and the children listen and obey whether they agree or not. If your kids rule your home, and Dad you are afraid to upset them, the same will be true within the church. If you won't enact discipline in the home, you'll be afraid to do it in the church also. You will turn a blind eye to sin and error because you don't want to upset people and be liked by all. Again the greatest Pastor ever told it like it was, some loved him, some hated him.

But let me give application that is so important to all of us today. Make sure things are right in your own home before you try to serve outside the home. Serve your family first, then the church and community.

I'm reminded of the story of an avid environmentalist, and dedicated gardener. He came to visit a friend and the subject turned to religion and children. The environmentalist/gardener said as for I chose not to push any religion on my child, I chose to wait until they are of age and let them choose for themselves, I don't think it is right that parents force their children into religion. The other man said, really, is that so, may I show you my garden as we walk, the gardener said absolutely I love gardens. So they walk out the back of his yard, and he takes him through a door in the wooden fence that leads out of his yard. On the other side was all this thick overgrown weeds and bushes, it was a mess. The man said, this is my garden. The gardener says, what, this is no garden, it is weeds and vegetation gone wild. The other man replies exactly, and so too will your children if you do not till the soil, pull the weeds, and bring it water and sunshine.

Cultivate your child's relationship with the Lord, first and foremost, and then the ministry outside the home. It is a balancing act, I don't want Wayne to become resentful against the ministry. I've heard it so many times from pastor's kids, they say Dad had time for everyone except me

The validation of your ministry is not your degrees or size of your church or ministry, but your kids and spouse spiritual walk.

Raise godly children so they can co-labor with you someday, so that they will take the battle to the enemy when you can no longer serve and fight.

(Psalms 127:3 NKJV) Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward.

(Psalms 127:4 NKJV) Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth.

(Psalms 127:5 NKJV) Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.

Raise godly children and they will answer the door to fight along side of you or maybe even for you when the spiritual warfare begins. They will battle the enemy, they will pray for you when they see the battles arising against you.

This is something the Lord is continually searching my heart over, if my family or your family isn't the main focus, then make them your focus and priority. Remember you are a blueprint for your children. The Father doesn't care about your great ministry, He cares about your ministry to your family. When the family is strong, then the church is strong, and God is glorified.

If Wayne grows up loving God and being obedient to Him, I don't care if he makes minimum wage or becomes a CEO, I will consider my life a success. If he doesn't grow up to follow the Lord, then I will consider my life a failure.

Pray for me as I pray for you, the enemy knows if he can pull our kids down, then he will pull us down and nullify us from the ministry. When I pray for you, I pray first for your ministry to your family, and then I pray for the other areas you are involved in.

(1 Timothy 3:6 NKJV) not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.

Wait for God's timing. Never teach above your level of understanding and knowledge. Be faithful in the little things, and God will raise you up into greater things. The things you desire will come to pass, but you have to be developed before you can do.

Hey Moses was 40 years old when he got God's calling. Then he spent 40 years in the desert, then he spent 40 years leading them in the desert.

When the timing wasn't right, Moses couldn't bury 1 Egyptian, but when the timing was right, he buried the Egyptian army.

Pastor Chuck was 38 and in the ministry for 20 years, ready to quit, then he said I'll take one more shot, and took a little church of 25 in Costa Mesa California, that was ready to quit themselves.

Pastor Chuck said it was when he yielded, gave up on his desires and visions, came to an end of his ideas, that is when God produced a yield. He said the years of hard times taught him what he could do, and then later when the yield came, what god could do.

(1 Timothy 3:7 NKJV) Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

A good reputation in the community. It has been sad how much resistance we have been getting trying to find a place to meet. We call and people are all interested until we say we are a church, then the whole attitude changes. What it is in many cases is that churches have burned them before. I went to the fire hall and they were all into renting until I said what for, then they said to be honest, the last church group stiffed, caused us some great financial loss because they

bailed on their agreement. The church has to be a good witness in the community, leaders do also.

2.) The Heart in Action as you Serve:

Here we see the confident heart and the ordered heart. A deacon is confident in his position within the church, knowing God's call on his life, and they understand the order in the church, and how vital their role is.

The office of the deacon is not so spiritual overseeing, but overseeing the practical things. Deacons are so vital in the church, yet so often unappreciated. Recognize them in the church and be thankful for them

(Acts 6:1 NKJV) Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution.

(Acts 6:2 NKJV) Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables.

(Acts 6:3 NKJV) "Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business;

(Acts 6:4 NKJV) "but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

(Acts 6:5 NKJV) And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch,

(Acts 6:6 NKJV) whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them.

(Acts 6:7 NKJV) Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

These men took care of the practical things so that the pastor and overseers could focus on prayer and the study of the word. If the pastor did all the details, then he would have no time to study and pray. Deacons are so vital in the church, yet so often unappreciated. Recognize them in the church and be thankful for them.

Notice in Acts they had to be spirit filled, not a college degree. It is interesting to see that serving in the practical areas first prepared men to go into leadership roles in the church.

Stephen was the first deacon chosen, and then the next time we hear of him he is preaching the Gospel, and being martyred for his faith. But more awesome is that Jesus is not seated at the right-hand of the Father, but gets up and is standing to receive His faithful minister.

(Acts 6:8 NKJV) And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people.

(Acts 6:9 NKJV) Then there arose some from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and those from Cilicia and Asia), disputing with Stephen.

(Acts 6:10 NKJV) And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke.

(Acts 6:11 NKJV) Then they secretly induced men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God."

(Acts 6:12 NKJV) And they stirred up the people, the elders, and the scribes; and they came upon him, seized him, and brought him to the council.

(Acts 7:54 NKJV) When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with their teeth.

(Acts 7:55 NKJV) But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God,

(Acts 7:56 NKJV) and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

(Acts 7:57 NKJV) Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord;

(Acts 7:58 NKJV) and they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul.

(Acts 7:59 NKJV) And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

(Acts 7:60 NKJV) Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

And then there was Phillip one of these first seven men selected, he became an evangelist and had a great revival going on.

(Acts 8:5 NKJV) Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them.

(Acts 8:6 NKJV) And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

(Acts 8:7 NKJV) For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed.

(Acts 8:8 NKJV) And there was great joy in that city.

But His greatest ministry was to his family, and the leader he was in the family, spirit filled virgin daughters:

(Acts 21:8 NKJV) On the next day we who were Paul's companions departed and came to Caesarea, and entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him.

(Acts 21:9 NKJV) Now this man had four virgin daughters who prophesied.

Be faithful in these things, and God will know He can trust you with the spiritual things.

(Matthew 25:23 NKJV) "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

Deacons/Servers, whether male or female, are so vital to a healthy church, and there are never enough deacons for any churches. Parking lot ushers, church ushers, burger flippers at the church picnic, cleaning ministry, set-up ministry, the list is endless.

(1 Timothy 3:8 NKJV) Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money,

not double-tongued

dilogos, dil'-og-os; equivocal, i.e. telling a different story:--double-tongued.

Not to be praising the Lord with one tongue, and then slamming the ministry or others with the other tongue. Maybe the ministry isn't being run as the Lord intends it to be, maybe it's because the Pastor and leaders aren't praying and studying the way they should be, because they are being overloaded taking care of waiting on tables. There is a direct change you can make to bring the ministry into what God desires it to be.

not given to much wine

There ya go, if you want to drink you can be a deacon. They have great meetings

(1 Timothy 3:9 NKJV) holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience.

Back to the first study, not getting wrapped-up in foolishness, but holding to the message in simplicity and truth:

(1 Timothy 1:4 KJV) Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do.

(1 Timothy 1:5 KJV) Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:

from a pure heart

A pure heart means you have narrowed your focus on 1 thing – God. Let your focus stray onto other things and so will the truth, and you will quit living to the truth and your heart will become impure.

good conscience

Consensus asks the question: Is it popular? Conscience asks: Is it right? If you are teaching the word straight-up, living it obediently, you can rest your head on your pillow at night knowing you did the will of God, and that God is pleased with you.

from sincere faith

Faith that is real, not phony. You can read a phony Christian a mile away, they tell you their stories and excuses for doing this and doing that. Why tell excuses to other Christians, who cares what they think of you, you need to worry what God thinks of you.

(1 Timothy 3:10 NKJV) But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless.

Again they are to withstand the 60 minutes investigation. But see, they are to first be tested, meaning there is a period of watching them work without the title before you make them a deacon. As for me, God makes you a deacon first, and then man just confirms what God has done in the man. The man is already working as a servant in the church, he is flipping burgers at the church picnic, he is picking up the cigarette butts in the parking lot, he is serving the body without needing a title.

(1 Timothy 3:11 NKJV) Likewise their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things.

I've seen many a men be disqualified from the ministry because of their wives being gossips, or having on-going quarrels with other ladies in the church.

You married men, not much I can say to you other than you need to take control of your home.

Single men, here God is telling you attributes to be looking for in your future wife.

Wives, all qualities should desire to be. Faithful in all things, all means all.

(1 Timothy 3:12 NKJV) Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

(1 Timothy 3:13 NKJV) For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Back to Stephen and Phillip. If you are a deacon and doing it well, you will receive boldness.

3.) The Heart in Action as you Receive

Verse 14-15, the theme of this epistle.

(1 Timothy 3:14 NKJV) These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly;

(1 Timothy 3:15 NKJV) but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

The church of the Living God, the pillar and ground of truth. This is the place, the church (I don't just mean this church), is where you can build your life, and be centered and focused for life, so that you may get through life. Remember we are living life backwards, and the church helps us keep that focus that heaven is near, that worse case scenario, we go to heaven.

(1 Timothy 3:16 NKJV) And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

This verse we finish on the "Hopeful Heart", if we are honest with ourselves we see how far we fall short on so many areas in this study, but praise the Lord, we can have the hopeful heart, because He has risen, He is seated in Heaven interceding for us, and sends us the Spirit to work in us to conform us into His Image, changing us into His glory.

We all know Romans 8:28,

(Romans 8:28 NKJV) And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

but most don't know 26-27 comes first. When we are weak, when we are beaten down, when we want to quit, God is interceding

(Romans 8:26 NKJV) Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

(Romans 8:27 NKJV) Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Also Cross Reference:

(Hebrews 7:24 NKJV) But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood.

(Hebrews 7:25 NKJV) Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

You are going to make it because Jesus is praying for you. Don't give up or be discouraged, God is going to come through, have the Hopeful Heart.

Now Paul doesn't give us a process or procedure on how to become these things, instead he gives us a person, the incarnate God who came down to dwell with us.

Here we see the full cycle. God in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, preached, believed upon, and received up.

The Cults will make Jesus less than God. The Jehovah Witnesses will say He is not God but an archangel. The Mormons will say that Jesus and Satan are brothers. But the Word of God says God Himself left the throne, and walked amongst men, so that He may show men how to walk here on earth, and the way the truth and the life.

Manifested in the flesh:

(John 1:1 KJV) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

(John 1:2 KJV) The same was in the beginning with God.

(John 1:14 KJV) And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Great is the mystery: trying to explain God is like trying to take the Atlantic Ocean and pour it into a bucket – Augustine.

Study the gospels and you will see how God Himself handled situations, he walked, as we are to walk, everything you need to know about God is in this Word, and everything you need to know about life for us is in this Word.

Apply these things, let your heart be searchable that the Spirit may move in your heart to make us all these things, that we will be pleasing in His sight. That He will work out in us what He wills for us.

1. The Heart in Action as you Lead – 1-7
2. The Heart in Action as you Serve – 8-13
3. The Heart in Action as you Receive – 14-16

Chapter 4

The Book of Timothy, written around 64-67AD. Paul the aged and experienced apostle writes to the young Pastor Timothy. As Paul would establish churches and move on, we read that he would often leave Timothy behind to help those churches in their growth. As we will read this letter, we will see that although Timothy is in Leadership, he still struggles with how to handle certain situations, he is still growing in his own maturity, and in leadership. I believe this book is applicable to all of us in some way or another because we are in the ministry in some form or fashion.

Paul writes to Timothy so that he may know how the church is to function.

The Theme of this letter:

(1 Timothy 3:14 NKJV) These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly;

(1 Timothy 3:15 NKJV) but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

(1 Timothy 3:16 NKJV) And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

The Outline:

The Church and its Message – Chapter 1

The Church and its Members – Chapter 2 & 3

The Church and its Minister – Chapter 4

The Church and its Ministry to Itself – Chapter 5

The Church and its Motives – Chapter 6

Paul will instruct Timothy how the church is to function, but understand this, the church is both corporately, and individually. The things taught in this book are for us as a group, the church and its four walls, and for us individually, for we are the temple of God, we are the body of Christ, the sum of individuals make up the Church Body.

These books (1&2 Timothy and Titus) have been called the Pastoral Epistles. For they help instruct ministers on how to serve in the ministry.

The second theme of this book, is chapter 1, verse 12:

(1 Timothy 1:12 NKJV) And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,

Being in the ministry is a gift from God, not a burden, be thankful to be called. Glean from this book so that you may be a faithful minister.

So, First Timothy, chapter 4: The Church and It's Minister.

We ended chapter 3 with verse 16:

(1 Timothy 3:16 KJV) And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

But we will see here in chapter 4 people will depart from these basic truths. We will read in this chapter, that God will give the church 2 things to guard themselves from these deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons.....

the Word of God,
and Strong Godly Leadership.

(1 Timothy 4:1 NKJV) Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

Expressly, means to pour forth clearly. The Spirit of God poured forth clearly this prophecy.

In the Old Testament, a large portion is devoted to prophecy; but we also have prophecy in the New Testament and here is an instance of the Spirit speaking expressly, "*that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron.*"

The word "latter days" used here is different from the word used for "last days" in 2 Timothy 3. The word used here means wave after wave, until the end comes.

Latter times - husteron, hoos'-ter-on; neut. more lately, i.e. eventually:--afterward, (at the) last (of all).

Last days - eschatos, es'-khat-os; farthest, final (of place or time):--ends of, last, latter end, lowest, uttermost.

People, things are not going to get better and better, but worse and worse. We must live everyday with this perspective. Paul is telling Timothy it is not going to be easy to be a minister in the last days. Whatever leadership role you are in today, it isn't easy is it, you have so much coming against you, so much to counter from the world.

some will depart from the faith giving heed to deceiving spirits

Satan's first tactics was to persecute the church, so in the first 300 years Satan killed 6 million christians, the result was an explosion in church growth. So he changed tactics and joined the church, infiltration and decline from within.

One needs only a slight acquaintance with Church History to know how these words were fulfilled in what we call the "Dark" or "Middle Ages," but which the Roman Catholic Church calls the "Age of Faith," because those were the years in which people forsook the teachings of the Word of God and received the superstitious traditions of the Roman Church. They departed from the faith. They substituted the authority of the Church for that of the Holy Scriptures. They changed the command of making disciples by the preaching of the gospel, to forced discipleship or die. (I am not attacking the Catholic Church, I am just reciting Church History)

We see the departing in churches today, but in a different way, Pastor's embracing homosexuality, being homosexuals. Quite possibly the brightest young man in my graduating class at Bible College, engaged to marry a wonderful girl from the school, he turned to a gay lifestyle, only to die from it. Thankfully he rededicated his life back to the Lord in his last days. People are leaving what was taught in chapter 1, the Church and it's Message – keeping the message in simplicity and truth.

Church members are ever so subtly being deceived into buying into the world's philosophy on sex before marriage, divorce (which is 50% within the church), homosexuality, all things that lead people away from the truth, and to some the faith. You can pick any story line of these tv shows that have homosexual or fornication story lines, and go into the church and at least 50% of the people will be able to tell you who all the characters are on the show. 20 years ago Madonna was headline news with her new look, last week she was front page news in all the major newspapers, from USA today, to CNN, to Europe's Sun Paper, for doing what, having an open mouth kisses with Britney and Christina. In Jesus day you would be stoned, today you are applauded. In my lifetime, we have gone from Anette Bryant anti-gay marches, to Gay Pride month. Have you noticed, it has gone from Gay Pride day, to gay pride week, and last month, for

the whole month it was gay pride month. People in the churches are buying into this deception and saying it is ok. Wave after wave, it gets worse and worse.

How about the deception of evolution. I sat with a priest in Florida who said my fundamentalist view of the Scriptures was too narrow, he said they leave open the idea of theistic evolution, meaning God said boom, and everything evolved from there. Let me tell you what that takes away, it takes away the significance of God's crowning jewel of creation, man. God spoke the world into existence, but for man He got His hands dirty. He didn't speak, He formed with His hands. God got dirty to create man. And 4000 years later those same hands that got dirty, got blood soaked from the nails that pierced them for your sin and my sin. There is no theistic evolution, it is a lie from the pit, it deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons.

Deceiving means, planos, plan'-os; roving (as a tramp), i.e. (by impl.) an impostor or misleader:-- deceiver, seducing. It is bait and switch, I portray it as something, but what you receive is totally different. We use this word when we talk of people being lead into adulteress relationships. What seems to be so appealing on the surface, the excitement and anticipation, turns into broken homes, depression, and a life robbed of true joy.

You see slowly but surely, these deceiving spirits have patiently worked these types of behavior into the church as acceptable, or for some, entertaining and interesting. So much so that there are churches that embrace it, they depart from the true Word of God and say that is so Dark Ages thinking.

and doctrines of demons

Just as God has a doctrine, so does Satan. This doctrine is anything that draws a person away from God. This doctrine today is so alluring because of the promises of success that comes with it. There is a war going on between the kingdom of God and Satan.

In the USA there are over 5000 cults and religions. Just last month a young man I know, a youth minister, departed from this faith and joined a cult.

We will read in this chapter, that God will give the church 2 things to guard themselves from these deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons.....the Word of God, and strong Godly leadership.

1.) **the Word of God** – Wall #1 between the enemy and God's children's
(1 Timothy 4:6 NKJV) If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.

(1 Timothy 4:11 NKJV) These things command and teach.

(1 Timothy 4:13 NKJV) Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

(1 Timothy 4:16 NKJV) Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

2.) **Strong Godly Leadership** – Wall #2 between the enemy and God's children's
(1 Timothy 4:6 NKJV) If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.

(1 Timothy 4:12 NKJV) Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

(1 Timothy 4:15 NKJV) Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

(1 Timothy 4:16 NKJV) Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

Of Course the question that you have to ask when you read this opening verse, can someone lose their salvation?

For 2000 years the debate has raged, can a man lose his salvation. I can tell you with 100% full assurance, I don't know. I can debate you from either side of the table, and make a strong case for both, but all I can say in the end is:

(John 10:28 KJV) And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

(John 10:29 KJV) My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

And this verse:

(1 Timothy 4:1 KJV) Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

Or

(1 John 1:9 NKJV) If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Or

(1 Corinthians 6:9 NKJV) Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites,

(1 Corinthians 6:10 NKJV) nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

One thing I can tell you, with 100% full assurance, I can tell you the guaranteed sure way to heaven. Forget seeing how close you can walk to the edge and still be saved, I say see how far you can walk away from the edge. Rather than join the 2000 year old debate, I skip the debate and focus on what really matters, tell people how to avoid the cliff by a hundred miles.

(1 Timothy 4:6 NKJV) If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.

(1 Timothy 4:2 NKJV) speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,

We might not realize this from our version, but the translation made by that great Greek scholar, William Kelly, reads: "Some shall fall away from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and teachings of demons by hypocrisy of the legend-mongers." That is the way evil teaching was to be presented to men, "through the hypocrisy of legend-mongers"---men who substituted legends for the truth of God. We look back through the centuries and see that these came in very early. There were not many copies of the Scriptures available during the Middle Ages, and the great majority of Christians did not have even a part of the Bible, nor would they have been able to read it if they had possessed it. The few manuscripts that were available were generally in the hands of teachers. Many of them were kept in monasteries. And so it was easy for interested persons to foist legends and traditions upon the common people, in place of the inspired revelation which God had given. Many such legends were promulgated in those dark ages. It is amazing, as we look back, to see how ready people were to accept all kinds of myths rather than the precious gospel as made known in the Bible. One legend was that of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary, the teaching that she was born without sin, and in that sense she was like her Son, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. Another legend that was dumped upon the people was that Mary never actually died, but was taken up into heaven and crowned and today reigns as queen of heaven. The legend of purgatory was substituted as a place of cleansing from sin instead of the

precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ alone. Many others came in and similarly nullified the plain teaching of Holy Scripture. They were accepted as though of the same authority God's Holy Word, and so brought men's hearts in bondage.

Those who were Satan's agents in vending legends, instead of the truth of the gospel, are said to have "their conscience seared with a hot iron. They reached the place where conscience no longer responded to the voice of God. Notice the contrast between these and those who stood for the truth, in verse 9 of the previous chapter. The Apostle speaks of Christians as "Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience." The people of whom he is speaking, in verse 2 of this fourth chapter, turn away from the faith and accept false theories and invalid legends, and are said to have their consciences seared with a hot iron. They became utterly calloused.

(1 Timothy 4:3 NKJV) forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

God Himself instituted marriage for a holy purpose. Men attempting to be wiser than God put the ban upon *marriage*, so that certain persons who were separated from the world as nuns, monks, and priests had to take a vow not to marry. By this we may see to whom the Apostle was referring here. Then observe the next mark: "Commanding to abstain from meats." Now our Lord Jesus Christ Himself told us, "*Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man*" (Matt. 15: 11). But there soon grew up in the professing Church the notion that the eating of meat on certain days should be refrained from, because by so doing one could better master the desires of the flesh; a theory which has proven to be false. Men are still as sinful as before. Vegetarianism has never worked for greater holiness than the ordinary method of nourishing the body, which is according to God's own order. But men cannot seem to get away from this outward thing, which is the teaching of demons.

In *Foxe's Book of Martyrs* an incident is related of a man who was to be burned at the stake because he would not bow down before a wafer and worship it as God incarnate. The wood was piled around him, and the executioner was waiting to put the torch to them. A priest stood on a high platform nearby and preached a sermon. He took for a text the first two verses of this chapter: "*Now 1 Timothy 4: 1-6 the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron.*" These words he applied to the martyr about to die as a condemned heretic. Having finished the sermon the priest said, "Have you anything to say before you are burned? Will you recant and receive the absolution of the Church?" The man, looking up, replied, "I have nothing to say except that I wish you would read aloud the next verse following the two you have read." The priest looked at the passage: "*Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God bath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.*" Instead of reading it he gave the signal to put the torch to the wood, and then he threw the Testament into the fire. It was too much. It condemned him, and showed exactly where the evil was, and what was meant by the Holy Spirit when He spoke of the doctrine of demons to be made known in the latter times.

This evil system which began in the latter times is prevalent today all over Christendom, and there is a definite line drawn between the Holy Scriptures and these superstitions that have been foisted upon people as inspired and authoritative traditions. We Ought to thank God for the open Bible, where truth is found so crystal clear!

Verses 4-5 continuing on the subject of food.

**(1 Timothy 4:4 NKJV) For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving;
(1 Timothy 4:5 NKJV) for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.**

The Apostle adds, "For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving." I wonder if we are as conscientious as we should be about giving thanks to God for the good things He has provided. It is shocking to notice Christians who sit down in public eating-places and give no evidence that they have thanked God for what is before them. Perhaps they do thank Him silently, but do not let those around them realize it. Christians, wherever you are when you partake of food you should be careful to honor God by giving thanks. Many opportunities will arise to speak to needy souls, even at the same table or at a table nearby, if you bow your head in a restaurant or hotel and give thanks before partaking of your food. Christians should never sit down to a table at home without giving thanks for that which God has spread before them. Yet I am afraid many of us fail even in this. On the other hand, I have seen people sit down to a table; it may be that the husband will give thanks, and within a few minutes he begins to fuss and growl about the food, complaining about it. Perhaps the poor wife has done her best, and that is all the thanks she gets! If we receive the food with thanksgiving then we should not complain about it. After all, no matter how poor it is, it is still too good for sinners. Had God treated us according to our deserts we would be in the pit of woe, forever beyond the reach of mercy.

"Sanctified by the Word of God and ~ What a blessed thing it is when the Word of God is honored and the voice of prayer ascends to heaven, as the family gathers about the table to enjoy the good things the Lord has provided. Many of us look back on such scenes of family worship, and how we thank God for the impressions made upon our hearts and lives in early days.

"If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine (or healthful teaching), whereunto thou hast attained" The minister of Christ is responsible to bring these things to bear upon the hearts and conscience of the people of God, in order that He may be honored and they may be preserved from the unholy teachings which Satan uses to lead many astray.

(1 Timothy 4:6 NKJV) If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.

Verse by verse will not grow a fellowship quickly for it is a slow process making disciples. What you win people with is what you will keep them with. If you win them with special events and exciting programs, than that is what you will have to keep doing to keep them. Win them with the Word, and then you have this whole book to teach them.

(1 Timothy 4:7 NKJV) But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness.

(1 Timothy 4:8 NKJV) For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

How do you guard yourself against the doctrine of demons? You train yourself in godliness. Godliness means God likeness. I remember several years ago I was going to go out west to Utah and ski. Now I had never skied hills like that on the East Coast, I had never see hill that steep and long. So I started to train, I was running, I was hitting the squat rack and Stairmaster, I trained hard. When I got there and look down those hills, I was glad I trained the way I did. Now I could have went out in the shape I was in and survived, but I didn't go out there to survive, but to take full advantage of what was before.

Christian, what type of training are you doing. As for skiing I could have shown up and seen what happened, but as Christians living in this world today we can't expect some magical anointing when the need arises, we have to be in a daily regiment of spiritual exercise. Survival isn't what God is looking for in the Christian life or ministry, He is looking for so much more.

I lead missions, served in various ministries, but I have never studied or prayed more than I have in the last year because of this small home Bible Study. The weight of the ministry drove me to new depths in the Lord, and I am so thankful for that.

If the Lord was to double this bible Study, who will be ready to step up to that challenge? Those who start training now are the ones who God will use then.

(1 Timothy 4:8 NKJV) For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

(1 Timothy 4:9 NKJV) This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.

These words are faithful, if we apply these words, then God will be faithful to them.

Hear this Christian, God never gives His word independent of Himself. The Spirit always testifies of His Word.

(Matthew 22:29 KJV) Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.

There is nothing that you or I can proclaim with greater confidence than the Word of God. Not one single verse will fall to the ground because the Spirit of God will take it to peoples heart.

(1 Timothy 4:10 NKJV) For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.

Here Paul is saying it will get harder and harder not only to minister for God, but to live for God as people will come against you for your belief. But don't give up, remember the confident heart, and the hopeful heart, live life backwards, heaven is so near, don't quit now or slow down.

Strong Godly Leadership:

(1 Timothy 4:11 NKJV) These things command and teach.

(Ephesians 4:11 KJV) And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

(Ephesians 4:12 KJV) For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

(Ephesians 4:13 KJV) Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

(Ephesians 4:14 KJV) That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

Pastor/Teachers are for the equipping of the saints so that they will not get tossed to and fro. To guard them from the spiritual sharks.

Do you remember JAWS? Do you remember the opening scene, that girl taking that first hit. That was a very impacting scene, to be honest, I really can't remember me in the ocean much anymore where my feet don't touch the bottom. But do you remember the town council people telling the sheriff, you need to be quiet about this, this is a rare circumstance, don't go get everybody all scared. This is our money season, we live or die off these three months, we need these people coming to the beach to spend their money, don't scare them off. Then, remember the little boy on the raft, remember that scene, JAWS was truly the beginning of Hollywood's special effect coming of age. But what calls out to my mind, remember the mother looking for her boy in the midst of all that chaos, the fear on her face when she couldn't find him. And then her slapping the sheriff in the face, saying you knew all the time and you never told us. If you would have told us, then my son wouldn't be dead right now.

There are times when people will say keep quiet about this knowledge, it will ruin your career, your business, our comfort zone, our fun, etc.

We have to tell the people, we have to warn them of the dangers. Let no one slap our face for not telling them what we knew. All we do is declare it, what they do with it after is none of our business.

This word command used here is a military term. In battle the command is yelled out, it can't be explained in battle, it has to be acted upon immediately. Bible studies (personal and public) are the training grounds, so when the battle comes you act upon it, don't question it, you act and get out of the situation according to what God commands, and then when you are safe analyze what has just happened.

(Acts 20:26 KJV) Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men.

(Acts 20:27 KJV) For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

(Acts 20:28 KJV) Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

(Acts 20:29 KJV) For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

The whole counsel of God, that is why we do verse-by-verse.

In verse 6 it says to instruct, bring to remembrance, point out, depending on your translation. It is the same Greek word, and it means to lay before, gently, humbly. Here in this verse it says command. So sometimes we command, sometimes we instruct.

(Proverbs 25:15 NIV) Through patience a ruler can be persuaded, and a gentle tongue can break a bone.

(1 Timothy 4:12 NKJV) Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

Youth in that day meant anyone of age to serve in the military. That would mean anyone under the age of 40. It is estimated that Timothy was 30-31 years old, but we really don't know for sure. What we do know is that he was ministering to people older than himself. Despise means to look down upon, and some were looking down upon him because he was so much younger than the average minister. It was a cultural thing. Today we live in the youthful culture. For Timothy he lived in an "Old Culture", they didn't want to hear from a kid.

You youth, don't let people say you are too young. The truth is the truth no matter what age it comes from. If the Lord has come upon you and placed a calling upon you, then step out and go. One of Satan's great lies is for you new believers, he tells you that you've only been saved a short, you are so young in the Lord, you need to wait before you start doing things for the Lord. The problem is you cool, and since you never served, some turn lukewarm, and never do get into serving. Don't wait, minister at your, and watch what the Lord does in your walk. It will be awesome.

In reference to your youth, Silence your critics by your conduct. You youth, maturity is the best way to bridge the generation gap, not your clothes or cigarettes.

but be an example to the believers

Chapter 1 we were called to be a pattern:

(1 Timothy 1:16 KJV) Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

But here we are called to be an example, different Greek word from pattern. The word means: tupos, too'-pos; a die (as struck), i.e. (by impl.) a stamp or scar; by anal. a shape, i.e. a statue, (fig.) style or resemblance; spec. a sampler ("type"), i.e. a model (for imitation) or instance (for warning):--en- (ex-) ample, fashion, figure, form, manner, pattern, print.

It was the word they used to stamp a coin. They would take metal and imprint the coin with the image they desired it to look like. The meaning is the same today in another sense, when people leave a person living for Jesus Christ, they leave with a lasting impression, there was no doubt you are who you say you are.

In what manner, in these six listed in this verse

In your speech – it is deeper than a sermon from the pulpit, but your real life one-on-one conversation with that person after your sermon is done.

In your conduct (lifestyle) –

(Ecclesiastes 10:1 NIV) As dead flies give perfume a bad smell, so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor.

I can go to Nordstroms and buy the most expensive oil, but if my wife opens the bottle and there is a dead fly on the top, that is all she will see and remember, she will never wear the perfume. You can do all these great things, be known for wisdom and service, but do one foolish folly, that is all you will be known for.

Let your conduct be one that studies the word of God and believes its blessed promises. A life that says my whole life shall be one service for the living God. Conduct that walks uprightly and doesn't regard iniquity in your heart and with the simplicity of a child confides in God.

In your love – Someone once said, "May Jesus reduce me to Love"

In your spirit - pneuma, pnyoo'-mah; current of air, i.e. breath (blast) or a breeze. There is a breeze that flows off of our life and unto others.

In your faith – We have to keep going no matter what. We are leaving impressions on people, we are blueprints for others to follow, we have to keep going so others don't quit. Husbands how long will your wife make it if you quit? Parents, how long will your children last if you give-up.

In your purity – It is what is in our minds and hearts that will lead us to our actions. That is why verse 13 is so important.

(1 Timothy 4:13 NKJV) Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

Exhortation - paraklesis, par-ak'-lay-sis; imploration, hortation, solace:--comfort, consolation, exhortation, intreaty. – all of which mean to draw near.

The Word will draw you near to God, it will come alongside of you to tell you what to do with the what you just read.

Let me give you a mini-course in how to study your Bible. 3 points everytime you study, Observation/Interpretation/Application. Observation is what the Word says, Application is what the Word means, and then Application (Exhortation) is so what does this mean to you, how do I apply this my life.

Phillip Brooks would write his studies, then go for a walk in the streets of Philadelphia and then ask the Lord what does this have to do with their life. How does this apply to them. EM Bounds said we are not sermon makers, but men makers.

(1 Timothy 4:14 NKJV) Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.

(1 Timothy 4:15 NKJV) Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

Meditate - meletao, mel-et-ah'-o; to take care of, i.e. (by impl.) revolve in the mind:--imagine, (pre-) meditate. To revolve in the mind, to think it over and over. Chew on it

(1 Timothy 4:16 NKJV) Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

The Word of God, and Godly Leaders, the two barriers God puts up against deceiving spirits and doctrine of demons.

Chapter 5

The Book of Timothy, written around 64-67AD. Paul the aged and experienced apostle writes to the young Pastor Timothy. As Paul would establish churches and move on, we read that he would often leave Timothy behind to help those churches in their growth. As we will read this letter, we will see that although Timothy is in Leadership, he still struggles with how to handle certain situations, he is still growing in his own maturity, and in leadership. I believe this book is applicable to all of us in some way or another because we are in the ministry in some form or fashion.

Paul writes to Timothy so that he may know how the church is to function.

The Theme of this letter:

(1 Timothy 3:14 NKJV) These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly;

(1 Timothy 3:15 NKJV) but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

(1 Timothy 3:16 NKJV) And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

The Outline:

The Church and its Message – Chapter 1

The Church and its Members – Chapter 2 & 3

The Church and its Minister – Chapter 4

The Church and its Ministry to Itself – Chapter 5

The Church and its Motives – Chapter 6

Paul will instruct Timothy how the church is to function, but understand this, the church is both corporately, and individually. The things taught in this book are for us as a group, the church and its four walls, and for us individually, for we are the temple of God, we are the body of Christ, the sum of individuals make up the Church Body.

These books (1&2 Timothy and Titus) have been called the Pastoral Epistles. For they help instruct ministers on how to serve in the ministry.

The second theme of this book, is chapter 1, verse 12:

(1 Timothy 1:12 NKJV) And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,

Being in the ministry is a gift from God, not a burden, be thankful to be called. Glean from this book so that you may be a faithful minister.

So, First Timothy, chapter 5: The Church and It's Ministry to Itself

One of the greatest dangers the people in the church will face will be from the outside teaching of false doctrine. But equally as dangerous will be from within, the insensitive people dealing with them. Today thousands of people will walk into churches to never return, because they felt that no one cared. How many people will be driven from churches this year because of the way people treated them, or because of their uniqueness of whom they are.

Teachers and Scripture quoters area dime a dozen, but a servant, now that's a different subject.

(Matthew 9:35 NKJV) Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

*(Matthew 9:36 NKJV) But when He saw the multitudes, **He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.***

Jesus was moved with compassion. Yes there were a lot of religious activities going on, but no one was caring for the people. People in the churches have a wide variety of ages, gender, circumstances, and to each need, they need to be ministered to as unique as they are.

The Church and it's Ministry to Itself, we will see 3 areas in this chapter that God will talk about in reference to the Church and it's Ministry to Itself:

- 1.) The Church and it's Ministry to Itself in treating each other as family (v1-2).
- 2.) The Church and it's Ministry to Itself in the treatment of the Widows (v3-16)
- 3.) The Church and it's Ministry to Itself in the treatment of It's Leaders. (17-25)

1.) The Church and it's Ministry to Itself in treating each other as family (v1-2)

A call to treat and respect the older as parents, and each other as brothers and sisters. We live in a very youthful culture, and the older and elderly can be cast aside, or overlooked because we focus so much on the youth. The Church needs to recognize their needs and uniqueness.

(1 Timothy 5:1 NKJV) Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father, younger men as brothers,

Exhort

The word exhort means to come alongside. This means to call them aside, not publicly (and I don't mean from the pulpit, but anywhere that there is others that can hear), and tell them what they need to know.

Aggressive / Smarter

The tendency of youth is to be aggressive, Don't despise youth, but don't use it unwisely. It is difficult for the older to receive exhortation from the younger. If it is mishandled, it can cause tremendous damage. I've noticed that I was a whole lot smarter at 22 than I am today. Now that I have lived life a little longer, especially on my own without parental support and covering, now that I've had to take on years of adult responsibility, I've realized how little I knew then, yet thought I was so wise.

Judgmental

Youth are much more energized, and aggressive, but along with that comes some bad things, one, as applied here in this verse is being judgmental. Youth are much more judgmental, because of their lack of living. So quick to cry out for mercy and grace, but just as quick to cast the first rock.

(John 8:4 NKJV) they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act.

(John 8:5 NKJV) "Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?"

(John 8:6 NKJV) This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear.

(John 8:7 NKJV) So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first."

(John 8:8 NKJV) And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.

*(John 8:9 NKJV) Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, **beginning with the oldest even to the last.** And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.*

For you older, respect God's call upon a younger man's life. For you youth, be sensitive to how hard it is for the senior to accept correction from youth, and always remember it is not what you said, but how you said it.

Honor Parents

To not honor thy mother and father was punishable by death, we need to remember this as we deal with our parents, and children as you live with yours.

(1 Timothy 5:2 NKJV) older women as mothers, younger as sisters, with all purity.

Sexual Culture

The whole world is so carnal and fleshly driven, everything is so sexual in our culture, we can't buy into that for a second. We live in a very sexual culture, and looks are so important. Those who are not the beautiful can be cast aside, or overlooked because the focus is so much on the looks. The Church needs to recognize their needs and uniqueness. The church is no place for overweight jokes, gap teeth, balding.....people are sensitive to these things. No one should never not go to church because they worry what people will think of their looks or clothing.

Church has to be the Place of Stability

The world is unstable, the church has to be a place of stability, a place where people can count on it to be there and be a safe heaven, a barrier from the world. Remember the church is to be the pillar and ground for truth in it's community.

Purity

With all purity, doesn't matter the age, she is God's daughter. Men set your barrier up to keep you in purity.

(Job 31:1 NKJV) "I have made a covenant with my eyes; Why then should I look upon a young woman?"

Passion to Conquer a Passion

Men, ladies, it takes a passion to conquer a passion. The passion for the Lord will conquer the passion for the flesh.

Woman shouldn't have to worry about being suffocated by men looking for a date, they should be free to come and enjoy the fellowship without worrying about who is going to hit on them. But you ladies remember the word we studied on how you are to dress modestly. Don't cause your brother to lust because of your dress.

The Church and it's Ministry to Itself in the treatment of the Widows (v3-16)

(1 Timothy 5:3 NKJV) Honor widows who are really widows.

The Heart of God

These are not just facts on how to run to the church, but the very heart of God. God is going to tell us how much these widows mean to Him, therefore how much they should mean to us. I love studying the heart of God, so that my heart may change to be like his.

I love being involved in the Assisted Living Ministry, it is a ministry of just giving where you receive nothing back materially, but only spiritually through the blessings God gives back to you for blessing these widows and the men who are in need.

Both OT and NT, we see God has a deep love and concern for the widows and fatherless. If you want to bless the Lord, get involved in a ministry to the widows and the fatherless (orphanage).

(1 Timothy 5:4 NKJV) But if any widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show piety at home and to repay their parents; for this is good and acceptable before God.

This isn't that the church is to support every widow, but a clear specific widow with a need. A widow without kids or grandchildren, nor parents for that matter, for if she did have parents still alive she was to go take care of them.

(1 Timothy 5:5 NKJV) Now she who is really a widow, and left alone, trusts in God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day.

She is totally alone – Same true today

She is totally alone. It was sad but in ancient days, a woman in this position would often have to turn to prostitution to support herself. Today it may not be prostitution as we know it, but she ends up marrying a jerk just so she can be taken care of. There are women like that all around us today. God says protect them for me. The same is true for us today at no matter their age, we need to protect women who feel helpless from marrying some loser because they feel hopeless and helpless.

If that is you today, or you know someone, tell them trust in the Lord, pray night and day until God Himself takes care of you.

Continues in supplications and prayers night and day.

But here we see she is to totally trust in God. She is a woman of prayer, she trust in God to provide for her and she prays for others, she is not just self centered.

Now for back to these widows, they prayed night and day, most likely she can't sleep because of the loneliness of the lost husband, so she spends that time seeking the Lord. For us also, don't miss those middle of the night prayer time, when you can't sleep. Don't count sheep, talk to the Shepherd. Don't watch TV, pray, take advantage of those special times of prayer.

(1 Timothy 5:6 NKJV) But she who lives in pleasure is dead while she lives.

If she is a carnal person, she is not to be taken care of by the church. It is a very sad site when I see older woman trying to dress and behave like they are 20 again. Elderly ladies should carry a beauty in their maturity. But worse are the middle-aged woman, who try to act and dress like they are 20, it is so so sad.

(1 Timothy 5:7 NKJV) And these things command, that they may be blameless.

(1 Timothy 5:8 NKJV) 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.

Kids it is payback time

Kids it is payback time, don't expect the government to take care of your parents, you have a responsibility to your aged parents. Now of course you any resources the government can provide, but ultimately you are responsible.

(1 Timothy 5:9 NKJV) Do not let a widow under sixty years old be taken into the number, and not unless she has been the wife of one man,

No Casual Attitude towards Marriage / will Encourage the Younger Girls

Sixty years of age means she physically could not support herself and the sexual desire has waned somewhat.

She was faithful to her husband while he was alive. Her marriage was above reproach. We today see the institute of marriage disappearing before our very eyes. Today's generation has no absolutes when it comes to marriage. This verse is so that older woman will encourage the younger woman in the church to stay faithful, not this casual attitude towards marriage, so imagine that godly influence on the young girls.

(1 Timothy 5:10 NKJV) well reported for good works: if she has brought up children, if she has lodged strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet, if she has relieved the afflicted, if she has diligently followed every good work.

Proverbs 31 woman in the NT

Good works prior to her husband's death, a history of good works in her life, which reflects the attitude of her heart. It was her life, not just something she did as insurance to get in the church program after her husband died.

Look at her generosity and compassion, she washed the saints feet and treated the afflicted. This is your Proverbs 31 woman here in the New Testament. Today's Proverbs 31 woman is a faithful wife, marriage to her is an absolute.

Bring her on Staff / Today we bring Men on Staff

It seems like the church is always bring young men in on staff, but imagine what would happen if you brought a Proverbs 31 woman into your church who would be praying for the ministry and the people night and day.

(1 Timothy 5:11 NKJV) But refuse the younger widows; for when they have begun to grow wanton against Christ, they desire to marry,
(1 Timothy 5:12 NKJV) having condemnation because they have cast off their first faith.
(1 Timothy 5:13 NKJV) And besides they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house, and not only idle but also gossips and busybodies, saying things which they ought not.

Here were 4 reasons not to be enrolled:

1. didn't meet the spiritual stuff
2. The free-time, coupled with the lack of spirituality, would make them busybodies. There may be nothing more destructive in a church than that.
3. The desires to remarry would come back to them after their commitment had been made to be a widow for life. They really were just hurting and missing their husbands that passed on. Now that the years had past they were ready to marry again.
4. Condemnation from themselves and others for falling in love again after making the commitment.

(1 Timothy 5:14 NKJV) Therefore I desire that the younger widows marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully.
(1 Timothy 5:15 NKJV) For some have already turned aside after Satan.

Nothing Will Keep you more Busy

Marriage, children, and a household will keep you more busy than anything, there is no time for idleness and being a busybody, no place for the devil.

Guide the House / Church is a Compliment to Your Teaching

I like the KJV, it says to "guide the house". Parents, heed this, you are to guide your house, that means all that are in it. Parents it is your responsibility to raise your children up in the faith, it is not the responsibility of the church. The church is to a compliment of your teaching, your devotion time with your children. If your child is not walking with the Lord, or walks away from the Lord, it is your fault for you are to be the "guide" for your house. Churches should have great children churches and youth groups, but they are to compliment your teaching and leading.

Consider This Time Investment

Parents consider this; put your kids in a room with twenty other kids and you have a lot of energy going on there. How focused will they be outside their home environment, apart from you. Maybe, you will get 5-10 minutes of solid teaching. If you can make twice a week that averages out to 15 minutes a week, one hour a month.

How about your teens? Now I've taught that ministry for years and my max teaching time was 20 minutes (consider my adult studies usually end at 30 minutes). Now midweek, after they sat through being taught at for 8 hours, maybe 10-15 minutes. Average that out and you are talking about an average of 30 minutes a week, two hours a month.

Day Upon Day

The churches teaching has to be a compliment to yours. It is day upon day, here a little there a little, that you will be building a solid foundation for your children. It is in your family devotion times, at the dinner table discussing the day and you point them to the Lord or apply the Word to the discussion when appropriate (watch out on letting your kids eat in front of the TV). It is when you as a family are watching TV you can say now that s of the Lord, that isn't. World events, the headline news, family situations. It isn't you as a family having a 30 minute Bible Study together, but you as a family living the Bible. This bread of Life living in you and you in Him. The Eklesia, the church, a calling out, a calling out to fellowship with Him as a family.

Verse 14 - give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully

Pillar in the Community

The church, the body of believers, are to be the pillar and ground of truth in the community, our family is never to give anyone in the community opportunity to speak negative about God and his Church.

Laborer – It is Work

Verse 18 will say - *The laborer is worthy of his wages*. It is speaking of leaders in the church, but as we have discussed we are all leaders in some way. So we are all laborers, and the bottom line is laboring is work, it is hard work. We need to accept it, that on top of working 8 for an employer, working in the yard, working on the house, we also have to work on our kids. When we realize it is work, then we can take the proper discipline for it. If we don't realize it is work, we will have the tendency to just let it flow to wherever it goes, and more time than not, you won't like where it goes.

Trust me from being a police chaplain, I've lost count of how many rich kids or well off kids we have arrested for drug possession or dealing. Parents buy them a new car, give them spending cash, send them on their way never giving them what they truly needed – the Bread of Life.

(1 Timothy 5:16 NKJV) If any believing man or woman has widows, let them relieve them, and do not let the church be burdened, that it may relieve those who are really widows.

Genuine Christian faith begins in the family.

We see the family in verse 4, 8, and 16. The family is responsible for their family, for raising the children up in Christ, and supporting their widows. Genuine Christian faith begins in the family. It isn't just financial reasons, but the caliber of that type of godly woman should be in the home, influencing the family, the kids and grandkids.

We see from this:

1. There is a need for organization in the church. For if there is no structure the building collapses.
2. Every church should care for the poor among it's own members
3. The funds of the church are to be distributed with care and wisdom
4. God is committed to helping those who can't help themselves.

The Thought in Our Heart

The thought in our heart should be how do I really treat people, how do I really view them. Do I care about them, do I know that the devil is after them, do I know id they are hungry, or have just lost a loved one. Today thousands of people will walk into churches to never return, because they felt that no one cared.

Are they just a body so a church can say we have 500, or are they a soul that I want to touch.

Warren Wiersbe said, no body remembers your sermons, they remember when you visited them in the hospital, came to them in their darkest hour.

God gave all this space in His Word just so His widows would be taken care of.

3.) The Church and it's Ministry to Itself in the treatment of It's Leaders. (17-25)

Now the treatment of the Leaders in the Church. Remember as we have studied, the two barriers that God puts up to protect His people from deceiving spirits and doctrine of demons, is: The Word of God, and Godly Leadership.

(1 Timothy 5:17 NKJV) Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine.

In chapter 3 we read that the church is the foundation and pillar of God

(1 Timothy 3:14 NKJV) These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly;

(1 Timothy 3:15 NKJV) but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

Elder - presbuteros, pres-boo'-ter-os; compar. of presbus (elderly); older; as noun, a senior; spec. an Isr. Sanhedrist (also fig. member of the celestial council) or Christian. "presbyter":--elder (-est), old.

A man who leads in such a way that people want to follow. Burnout happens in the ministry when there is too many ministries and not enough leaders. We are always playing catch-up. We need to push ministry down, so that the elders can spend their time in prayer on how to lead, and study of the Word so to teach and raise up other leaders and servants.

(1 Timothy 5:18 NKJV) For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain," and, "The laborer is worthy of his wages."

(Deuteronomy 25:4 KJV) Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out the corn.

The Pastor and church worker are worth their wages. Now the Pastor should never live above his people, neither should he live below them. Now if you are a pastor or laborer in a church remember that people are providing your salary, therefore you will be subject to more inspection and criticism, don't buy just because you can afford, you have to live modestly so as not to cause your people to stumble.

The Pastor needs to be studying the Word and praying for his people. He shouldn't be looking for side work to make ends meet, if he has to do that, the ministry will suffer, more specifically the people will suffer.

The laborer: labor is work, it is hard work. The study of the Word is hard work. Prayer is spiritual warfare, it is hard work. After the studying and prayer is done, then it is the preparation to deliver the message so it reaches the people, that is hard work.

Pastor's / laborers / teachers – in order for the ministry to happen the teaching of the Word must happen first so you need to protect your time in order for the message to be delivered. Minister, never miss the ministry that happens after the teaching of the Word. Now if you don't prepare well, then the ministry after the teaching will suffer likewise. Guard your time, people will eat your study and prayer time up if you allow them to, they don't realize how much time you need to study and pray, they usually think you are some super saint and the teaching and preaching just happen.

You need time for the Word to soak into you so that it becomes a part of you. Family support the laborer.

(1 Timothy 5:19 NKJV) Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses.

The reputation of the pastor/elder is all they have, destroy it, you destroy them. As in Biblical order, nothing less than two or three witnesses to receive and accusation. Never listen to the slander against the Pastor, even if it is in the name of "prayer or counsel". You are not to listen to it, turn aside and say I can't listen to this, unless there are 2-3 of you willing to stand together, and before the Pastor to make your claim. The enemy want so to destroy churches, and his tactics are many times to attack the head. By the way, personally I think a husband and wife equal one, so they don't qualify for 2, they need someone else who is willing to stand up and bring a charge.

(1 Timothy 5:20 NKJV) Those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may fear.

If there is sin in the camp, whether in leadership or membership, it has to be dealt with.

The Ananias and Sapphira effect (Acts 5:1-11), it is purifying the church. Great fear was brought upon the church. The same will happen in the church when sin, that is un-repented of is exposed and punished. Now that may not be seeker-sensitive appealing, but it is necessary in the life of the church.

Church, gang, you see the world needs to see that someone takes sin seriously. If the church doesn't take sin seriously, then how can the world. When we take sin seriously, it gives credibility to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. What about grace and mercy you may ask? There comes a time when the church has to say enough, we have to purify for the sake of the others.

(1 Corinthians 5:5 NKJV) deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

(1 Corinthians 5:6 NKJV) Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?

(1 Corinthians 5:7 NKJV) Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

(1 Timothy 5:21 NKJV) I charge you before God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing with partiality.

A challenge to all, especially in the ministry, do we give more grace to the influential people in the church. Also be careful minister when you are invited to share in the lifestyle of rich and famous, or influential. It is easy to be drawn in to enjoy the comforts, but is their lifestyle really fitting for a minister of the Word.

(1 Timothy 5:22 NKJV) Do not lay hands on anyone hastily, nor share in other people's sins; keep yourself pure.

Don't lay hands on too hastily. Paul is saying before you raise someone up and ordain them and put them in leadership, watch them for awhile, let them prove themselves out. If you can't serve then you can't lead, for ministry is service. Watch and wait, the Lord will prove them out.

If you keep yourself pure, then you keep yourself in the ministry, if you compromise, then you are out of the ministry. Sometimes being in the ministry means you can't do the things others are doing, even if it is all right.

(1 Timothy 5:23 NKJV) No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for your stomach's sake and your frequent infirmities.

We spoke about this in our previous studies. Simply Paul wasn't telling Timothy to go slam a few, but not to go to the point of allowing legalism to keep him from a clear good thing. Alcohol/wine would kill the microorganism and allow the water to be fit for drinking. The alcohol was for

medicinal purposes. Today it would be like saying take some NyQuil if you have the flu, some PepsidAC if your stomach is upset.

Holiness is never impractical or lacking in common sense

(1 Timothy 5:24 NKJV) Some men's sins are clearly evident, preceding them to judgment, but those of some men follow later.

(1 Timothy 5:25 NKJV) Likewise, the good works of some are clearly evident, and those that are otherwise cannot be hidden.

Paul says to Timothy, you can't have the fear of what people think of you from living in freedom. You need medicine, then take it, don't worry what the people think or judge you.

(Proverbs 29:25 NKJV) The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.

Minister all over the world and country are living in bondage because they worry so much about being misunderstood. You can't live your life in someone else's mind. Paul says you know your heart. You take care of your character, and God will take care of your reputation.

The Church and it's Ministry to Itself, we will see 3 areas in this chapter that God will talk about in reference to the Church and it's Ministry to Itself:

1. The Church and it's Ministry to Itself in treating each other as family (v1-2).
2. The Church and it's Ministry to Itself in the treatment of the Widows (v3-16)
3. The Church and it's Ministry to Itself in the treatment of It's Leaders. (17-25)

Chapter 6

The Book of Timothy, written around 64-67AD. Paul the aged and experienced apostle writes to the young Pastor Timothy. As Paul would establish churches and move on, we read that he would often leave Timothy behind to help those churches in their growth. As we will read this letter, we will see that although Timothy is in Leadership, he still struggles with how to handle certain situations, he is still growing in his own maturity, and in leadership. I believe this book is applicable to all of us in some way or another because we are in the ministry in some form or fashion.

Paul writes to Timothy so that he may know how the church is to function.

The Theme of this letter:

(1 Timothy 3:14 NKJV) These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly;

(1 Timothy 3:15 NKJV) but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

(1 Timothy 3:16 NKJV) And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

The Outline:

The Church and its Message – Chapter 1

The Church and its Members – Chapter 2 & 3

The Church and its Minister – Chapter 4

The Church and its Ministry to Itself – Chapter 5

The Church and its Motives – Chapter 6

Paul will instruct Timothy how the church is to function, but understand this, the church is both corporately, and individually. The things taught in this book are for us as a group, the church and its four walls, and for us individually, for we are the temple of God, we are the body of Christ, the sum of individuals make up the Church Body.

These books (1&2 Timothy and Titus) have been called the Pastoral Epistles. For they help instruct ministers on how to serve in the ministry.

The second theme of this book, is chapter 1, verse 12:

(1 Timothy 1:12 NKJV) And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,

Being in the ministry is a gift from God, not a burden, be thankful to be called. Glean from this book so that you may be a faithful minister.

So, First Timothy, chapter 6: The Church and its Motives. This chapter will speak to the motives and attitudes of the church as individuals. Paul will give Timothy some exhortation on what to avoid and what to apply to his life as a leader. Again we are called to leadership in some way, so there is much to glean for us personally.

New Motives / New Focus

Once I give my life to Christ I am a New Creation, I now have a new focus, new motives for living and life. God wants us to consider some of the following areas and to check our motives and attitudes concerning them.

Outline - Slide

The Church and its Motives, we will see 3 areas in this chapter that God will talk about in reference to the Church and it's Motives:

- 1.) Motives in Employment (v1-2).

- 2.) Motives in Ministry (v3-5)
- 3.) Motives with Money (v6-19)

Motives in Employment (v1-2). - Slide

What and how we are to be in the workplace.

(1 Timothy 6:1 NKJV) Let as many bondservants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and His doctrine may not be blasphemed.

Why – So God’s Name not Blasphemed

Here, an exhortation to be faithful to our employer. Give them 40 hours of work for 40 hours of pay. Why are we called to work hard, so that no one may lay a charge against our Lord, and blaspheme Him because one of His children is a poor worker. We have read in chapter 3 and 5 how parents are to rule and guide their house/children so that no one in the community can blaspheme God for the poor witness of the children, well the same is true here, except that we are the children, God is the Father, and our poor work reflects on Him directly.

168 / 56 / 112 / 40% / 58%

Why does God put so much emphasis on our working, well for one reason, consider this. 168 hours in a week, we sleep for 56 of them, so that leaves 112 total hours a week of living. If you work 40hrs with 1hr lunch break, that is 45 hours a week, of the 112, that means 40% of your waking hours are at work. If you work 60 hrs a week with lunch, that is 58% of your waking hours spent working. That is why God speaks so much about our work and service to our employers in the Scriptures, it is such a large portion of our personal witness. What are you doing with your 40%.

The World Is Looking

The world is looking for reasons to believe, don't give them a reason not to.

Living Walking Talking Translation - Slide

We have the KJV, NKJV, NIV, NRSV, and you, the LWTT – the Living Walking Talking Translation. The world is looking for the answers to life, and we have the answers.

(2 Corinthians 3:2 NKJV) You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men;

Mocked – But God always Win

Now yes we will be mocked, ridiculed, even attacked or overlooked in the workplace because of our belief, just remember, God always wins, therefore you will too. Never give up on your witness at work to your fellow co-workers, but nonetheless, never ever give them reason to blaspheme the name of the Lord, give them 40 for 40.

Now if things get really hard, here is one way to get them to stop bugging and harassing you. True story, my friend Tim would read his Bible at lunchtime while he ate, and they others in the break room use to make comments and jokes about him. So one day he just stopped reading, looked upwards, and said, “what’s that Lord, you want me to kill them all?”.....needless to say all the harassing stopped. (Just joking if you are reading this).

(1 Timothy 6:2 NKJV) And those who have believing masters, let them not despise them because they are brethren, but rather serve them because those who are benefited are believers and beloved. Teach and exhort these things.

Taken Advantage Of

Sometimes being a believer boss can be a problem. For the Christian worker can really take advantage of that. Well I was late because I didn't want to miss my devotion (no wake up earlier), I can't work tomorrow because I'm doing ministry, well I have to leave early today because I'm going to a retreat. Now all these may be great things, but Christian if you work for a believing

boss, you are told here to consider them, and not use your bond in Christ as a reason to get special privileges that the other workers don't get.

Cover Your Boss

I read that in Greek Stage Comedies at the time of this writing, they would have skits where the Christian worker would be making faces and jesters behind the Christians boss back. The Word is saying here to cover your boss, don't despise them, even if they aren't the greatest of bosses. Some Christians will despise their boss because they say, well why should he be the boss, I'm smarter, more qualified than he is. God says put that away and work hard for them.

Why, to cover your boss. Cover you boss in all areas, if he is a jerk, cover him with hard work so the unbeliever can't see his bad witness. If he is great boss, cover him with hard work so as to relieve the pressure and responsibilities that comes with being a boss.

Two-Way Street – Check your Motive

We have to always remember that work is a two-way street, we give and receive. Our motive for work can not always be focused on us, we have to work considering also what is it that our employer / boss needs to succeed.

Motives in Ministry (v3-5). - Slide

Don't Work hard, but work the faith

Now Paul was talking about being faithful at work, but some teachers were teaching don't work hard at work, but work the faith. Lets read:

(1 Timothy 6:3 NKJV) If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness,

(1 Timothy 6:4 NKJV) he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions,

(1 Timothy 6:5 NKJV) useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself.

The Teachers/Ministers Motives

See there in verse 5, these teachers motives were not for godliness, but for gain.

Examine Ourselves

We all have to examine ourselves and ask ourselves, why am I doing this ministry? For some of these men they liked to be called "reverend", it stroked his pride. They liked to be known as the knowledgeable ones of God, but God says they know nothing. The resultant of these men teaching was strife among the people, then they were suspicious of everyone that came along and threatened their ministry. If your motive is to serve God, then you will see hey this is your ministry Lord, all I am is a helper.

In the Context / Financial Gain

More importantly, as it applies in this context of this chapter, these men used the church as a means to gain personal wealth, godliness is a means of gain.

Make Merchandise of the People

These men would make merchandise out of the peoples desire to know God. They would look for disasters (death, hurricanes, floods, 911) to play on peoples emotions and goodness to bilk them of money.

Sow Your Seed of Faith

They would say to the people you don't have to work hard, you just need more faith. You are the Kings Kids, you are not meant to be living meagerly. What would come out of this teaching? Now "Sow your Seeds of Faith". Put it on the Master's Card, step out in faith, and God will meet you.

Special Announcement - Slide

Important Announcement, God is not Broke!!

(Psalms 50:10 NKJV) For every beast of the forest is Mine, And the cattle on a thousand hills.

(Psalms 50:12 NKJV) "If I were hungry, I would not tell you; For the world is Mine, and all its fullness.

Total Misrepresentation of God

It is a total misrepresentation of God when we have to beg for money. Those that do this shame God.

No Money / More Dependant

If you don't have money in your church it is because God wants to keep you dependent on Him. We don't have to pressure the people to give, pass the offering 2-3 times and give a long speech on giving. It is God's Church, and He will provide for His Church.

If can't Provide for Himself / Can't provide for You

God is not broke, if He can't provide for His so-called "House", then how could He ever provide for your house, my house!

Off the Air / God not in It / Poor Stewards

If a church or a ministry is going off the air or closing the doors because they don't have enough money, then it is either because God is not in it, or the Leadership have been poor stewards of what God has given, and they need to adjust their ministry according.

God Guides He Provides

Where God guides, He will provide. If a ministry needs to be on life support by constant pleading for money, then pull the plug on the ministry. If God wants it to revive, He will provide the finances for it.

I am ever so embarrassed when Christians make God out to be some beggar or pauper. He created the universe, He owns the universe.

People came to the Altar / the Altar Didn't come to them

In the Scriptures we see the people bringing the offering to the Lord, to the Altar. No where do we see the priests bringing the altar to the people. Teachers who put so much emphasis on giving are outside the Scriptures, especially if they are trying to tie it to sowing seeds of faith.

5 Offerings Before the Lord - which were broken into 2 groups: - **SLIDE**

A.) The Sweet Savor Offering – which means *feewill offering*.

The Burnt Offering

The Consecration Offering, to be set-apart for the Lord (Lev1:1-17 & 6:8-13)

The Meal Offering

The Offering of Service to God (Lev 2:1-16 & 6:14-18)

The Peace Offering –

The Offering of Fellowship and Communion with God and Thanksgiving (Lev 3:1-17 & 7:11- 21)

B.) The Sin Offering

The Sin Offering

- *The Offering for Sins of Ignorance (I tried to do right but still missed the mark)*
(Lev 4:2-35 & 6:24-30)

The Trespass Offering

- *The Offering for I know it's wrong yet I still chose to do it* (Lev 5:6-7 & 7:1-10)

Not to be confused with the 7 Feasts of the Lord

- The Feast of the Passover
- The Feast of the Unleavened Bread
- The Feast of Firstfruits
- The Feast of Pentecost
- The Feast of Trumpets
- The Day of Atonement
- The Feast of Tabernacles

The 5 Offering Before the Lord: - Slide

Burnt Offering – (Lev1:1-17 & 6:8-13)

(Leviticus 1:1 NKJV) Now the LORD called to Moses, and spoke to him from the tabernacle of meeting, saying, (Leviticus 1:2 NKJV) "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When any one of you brings an offering to the LORD, you shall bring your offering of the livestock; of the herd and of the flock.

(Leviticus 1:3 NKJV) 'If his offering is a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish; he shall offer it of his own free will at the door of the tabernacle of meeting before the LORD.

Meal Offering - (Lev 2:1-16 & 6:14-18)

(Leviticus 2:1 NKJV) 'When anyone offers a grain offering to the LORD, his offering shall be of fine flour. And he shall pour oil on it, and put frankincense on it.

(Leviticus 2:2 NKJV) 'He shall bring it to Aaron's sons, the priests, one of whom shall take from it his handful of fine flour and oil with all the frankincense. And the priest shall burn it as a memorial on the altar, an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to the LORD.

Peace Offering – (Lev 3:1-17 & 7:11- 21)

(Leviticus 3:1 NKJV) 'When his offering is a sacrifice of a peace offering, if he offers it of the herd, whether male or female, he shall offer it without blemish before the LORD.

(Leviticus 3:2 NKJV) 'And he shall lay his hand on the head of his offering, and kill it at the door of the tabernacle of meeting; and Aaron's sons, the priests, shall sprinkle the blood all around on the altar.

Sin Offering – (Lev 4:2-35 & 6:24-30)

(Leviticus 4:3 NKJV) 'if the anointed priest sins, bringing guilt on the people, then let him offer to the LORD for his sin which he has sinned a young bull without blemish as a sin offering.

(Leviticus 4:4 NKJV) 'He shall bring the bull to the door of the tabernacle of meeting before the LORD, lay his hand on the bull's head, and kill the bull before the LORD.

Trespass Offering – (Lev 5:6-7 & 7:1-10)

(Leviticus 5:5 NKJV) 'And it shall be, when he is guilty in any of these matters, that he shall confess that he has sinned in that thing;

(Leviticus 5:6 NKJV) 'and he shall bring his trespass offering to the LORD for his sin which he has committed, a female from the flock, a lamb or a kid of the goats as a sin offering. So the priest shall make atonement for him concerning his sin.

We see other examples throughout the Bible.

First Offering – Cain and Able before the Lord

*(Genesis 4:3 KJV) And in process of time it came to pass, that **Cain brought** of the fruit of the ground an **offering** unto the LORD.*

First Public Offering – when they were going to build the Tabernacle in the Wilderness

(Exodus 25:1 NKJV) Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

*(Exodus 25:2 NKJV) "Speak to the children of Israel, **that they bring Me an offering**. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering.*

(Exodus 25:3 NKJV) "And this is the offering which you shall take from them: gold, silver, and bronze;

Jesus Sermon on the Mount

*(Matthew 5:23 NKJV) "Therefore if you **bring your gift to the altar**, and there remember that your brother has something against you,*

(Matthew 5:24 NKJV) "leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

God is Not Broke / The Church Today needs to Check Motives

God is not broke, nor does He need us to pressure people for money. Teachers who put so much emphasis on giving are outside the Scriptures, especially if they are trying to tie it to sowing seeds of faith. They need to check their motives, and nobody in the church should ever feel pressured into giving. All giving should be done on a free-will offering.

Personally I don't even like the passing the hat thing, you worship the Lord when you write that check, not when you drop it in the hat. But whatever.

Motives with Money (v6-19). Slide

Godliness brings Gain, Then Gain Contentment

They will say that godliness will bring you gain, and then the gain will bring you contentment, but here in verse 6 it says godliness with contentment is great gain.

(Philippians 4:11 NKJV) Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:

(Philippians 4:12 NKJV) I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

(Philippians 4:13 NKJV) I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

(1 Timothy 6:6 NKJV) Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

God will not Withhold from You - Slide

(Psalms 84:11 NKJV) For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly.

Be content on what God gives you. If you don't have what you want, then assume that God doesn't consider it good for you at this time. You are free to just enjoy the fact that all you have to do is work hard, and God will take care of it for you.

Quaker next Door

I read a story of a new family moving in next door to a Quaker. The Quaker watched him move in with all of his stuff, all his furnishings and expensive toys that "successful people" collect. The Quaker finally went over and said neighbor, if you ever need anything come see me, and I will tell you how to get along without it.

God will not withhold anything from you. Trust Him and be content.

(1 Timothy 6:7 NKJV) For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

Bill Gates and You

Do you realize that if you and Bill Gates were to die on the same day, you both would leave the same amount - everything

(1 Timothy 6:8 NKJV) And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

Top 3% - Slide

The poorest person here today is in the top 3% in the world in wealth. Top 3% yet we complain that we don't have enough. Do you know that an American dog eats better than 40% of the humans in this world. Yet we are not content. We can go to the refrigerator/cupboard, push and slid everything around to see all that is in there, and then say it is empty. Open our closet and

say we have nothing to wear. We move into bigger houses to store all of our stuff. Yet we are not content.

Why Some Struggle, Some Don't / Evangelist Story

I don't know why some have and some don't. Why some struggle with unemployment, some seem to always be in the right place at the right time. But sometimes I do think, do see, that those who struggle financially are constantly seeking the Lord, and being conformed into His image because they spend so much time in His presence.

An evangelist told the following story in one of his campaigns. He said, "I have a friend who during the depression lost a job, a fortune, a wife, and a home, but tenaciously held to his faith - the only thing he had left. One day he stopped to watch some men building a stone church. One of them was chiseling a triangular piece of rock. 'What are you going to do with that?' asked my friend. The workman said, 'Do you see that little opening way up there near the spire? Well, I'm shaping this down here so that it will fit in up there.' Tears filled the eyes of the heartbroken man as he walked away. It seemed that God had spoken through the workman to explain the ordeal through which he was passing."

(1 Timothy 6:9 NKJV) But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.

(1 Timothy 6:10 NKJV) For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

It is the love of money that is the root of all evil, not money itself.

Money Will Lead you into Foolish Places

Wanting money can lead you into some foolish places. If you didn't have the money you wouldn't be drawn into those foolish lusts. You literally buy your way into places you never would have gone, and now you are sidetracked. Drugs, alcohol, gambling, movies (got to watch something at the movies, even if it isn't good for me, cause its Friday night at the movies). Maybe it's a little tuck here, a little puck there, and then your whole world changes, but not for the better.

which drown men in destruction and perdition

I am reminded of that movie Treasure Island, do you remember the end when the cave is getting ready to collapse on them. Some run out not caring about the gold but just to survive, and then there is the greedy man, who says I am at least going get out with a backpack full of loot. Then the great serpent wraps him from behind, pulls him into the water, and the weight of all the gold takes him to the bottom, to drown to death. His last view is all the other men before him who had met the same fate, dozens of skeletons with backpack full of loot strapped to their back.

Hollywood and You

The desire to be rich has caused people in Hollywood to make XXX movies, it is the desire for money that causes some young girl to enter into those movies. It is the desire for money that causes men to set up drug empires, that then cause young men and ladies to be destroyed by it.

We are disgusted by these people who produce these movies and seal these drugs, But If we listen to the Spirit, we can see that in some ways we aren't so better. How many young girls enter into a lifestyle of promiscuity because the parents were working all those hours for all those years. How many kids enter into experiences drugs because there was no family to go home to that night.

Subtle Seduction – 1 more raise

It is the ever so subtle seduction of Satan. If I can just make one more pay grade, one more project, one more promotion, then I'll be set, but then it always seems to be just one more....

I'm not saying that 60, 80 hours of work is sin, for sometimes it is a necessity in order to stay employed and meet the deadline. Again there are times when we have to suck it up for the employer and our boss. But be careful if it just becomes a way of life.

Some of you have had to make some hard decisions in this area, taking a new job, pay cut, in order to have a life with your family, God will honor you for that.

3 Charges For the man of God - Slide

3 Charges For the man of God – on how to escape the snare of money and the motives of these errant teachers.

Flee
Follow
Fight

People don't know who you are by what you don't do, but by what you do. Timothy do these things so people know who you really are.

(1 Timothy 6:11 NKJV) But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.

(1 Timothy 6:12 NKJV) Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

Paul Give Timothy the Battle Cry

Then in verse 13 Paul gives Timothy a military order

*(1 Timothy 6:13 KJV) I give thee **charge** in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;*

Paul is encouraging Timothy in the battle and warfare he is facing. How does he encourage him, by reminding how awesome his God is, and that someday all these material things will burn and all that we will stand before the Lord of All Creation.

(1 Timothy 6:13 NKJV) I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate,

(1 Timothy 6:14 NKJV) that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing,

(1 Timothy 6:15 NKJV) which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords,

(1 Timothy 6:16 NKJV) who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.

He is saying Timothy, don't quit the fight, look who you are battling for and who is battling for you. I think we all need to come to this verse regularly to remind us of how awesome He is.

Verse 17-19, commandments to those who are well-off or rich.

(1 Timothy 6:17 NKJV) Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.

Don't trust in your riches, but store up your treasures in heaven. Riches are uncertain, the economy is unstable at best, don't trust in your riches.

A couple in Oakland California didn't trust in the banks so they hid all their money in their home. Then a fire came through the whole valley and burned their house to the ground. They said we were saving for a raining day, we didn't plan on a fiery night.

who gives us richly all things to enjoy.

Some of the best things in life are free:

Walk the beach and I don't have to worry about the hurricane.

Go to the mountain, Skyline Drive, and I'm free to enjoy it.

Can't afford an expensive library, I just go down to the public library, a full university at my fingertips.

(1 Timothy 6:18 NKJV) Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share,

The richer a person becomes on earth, the stingier they become. I find that the most generous people are those that don't have much. Do you one of the principle behind giving is, every time you give, you give a piece of yourself away, the selfish piece.

(1 Timothy 6:19 NKJV) storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

You can't take it with you, but you can send it ahead.

A Charge against the Intellectual

(1 Timothy 6:20 NKJV) O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge;

Luther in his preface to Romans said, how can these audacious Christians who dare to soar the heights of eternal depravity, irresistible grace, predestination, preservation of the saints, before they understand sin of the flesh, temptation, and grace.

(1 Timothy 6:21 NKJV) by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith. Grace be with you. Amen.

First Timothy:

(1 Timothy 3:14 NKJV) These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly;

(1 Timothy 3:15 NKJV) but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

(1 Timothy 3:16 NKJV) And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

The Church of the living God, The pillar and ground of the truth.

Our first Sunday, and we start with, 1 Timothy 3:14-15

(1 Timothy 3:14 NKJV) These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly; (1 Timothy 3:15 NKJV) but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

The Church of the Living God:

The Church: ekklesia, ek-klay-see'-ah; a calling out, God calling you out of this world, into His Kingdom. The Church – ekklesia,, a calling out from your hectic life to come and receive from Him, and the fellowship of believers.

The church isn't a building of wood and stone, but a building of God made up of believers.

Church isn't on Sunday, it is the breath and heartbeat of every child of God. It is the Bread of Life taking up residence in your very body. It is every moment of every day.

A-Game

The church isn't Sunday, I would have told you that this week. I would have said Sunday is just another Bible Study, but to be honest with you, I struggled with that this week. My mind was saying this isn't just another Bible Study, this is Sunday, you have to bring your "A" game, your message has to have a whole new dimension to it. You have to bring a deep devotion to it, peoples hearts have to be moved, people have to feel like they were in the presence of God.

I know my outline for this book, point 1, is the Church and It's message, that it should be in simplicity and truth, but forget all that now, this is Sunday.

To be honest, anxiety started to work on me. For my fear was what I knew, I don't have an "A" game, "B" game, nor "C" game. All I have is just one game that's it. It is the same in my bowling, unless you consider 110 an "A" game, and 105 a "B" game. If we went golfing today, I would shoot a 105, if we go six months from now, I will shoot a 105. That is the story of my whole life, all the way through, I only have one game, whether it is golf or bible teaching, one game.

But God – takes you back

But God yesterday.....anytime you read "But God" in the Bible, sit up in your chair, lean forward, for God is going to show you something great. Thankfully I had a "But God" in my week. For as I struggled with trying to find an "A" game in 2 days, not being able to sleep on Friday night,But God quieted my mind, and calmed my restless heart. He took me back to what He has put in my heart to do when this day would come, having Sunday services.

God will do this for us if we allow, he will take you back to a place where He had shown you something, or did something in your life, and you will be able to refocus, and recalibrate off that mark.

I'm reminded of the story of the prophet Elisha, he was running a Bible College so to say,

(2 Kings 6:1 NKJV) And the sons of the prophets said to Elisha, "See now, the place where we dwell with you is too small for us.

(2 Kings 6:2 NKJV) "Please, let us go to the Jordan, and let every man take a beam from there, and let us make there a place where we may dwell." So he answered, "Go."

(2 Kings 6:3 NKJV) Then one said, "Please consent to go with your servants." And he answered, "I will go."

*(2 Kings 6:4 NKJV) So he went with them. And when they came to the Jordan, they cut down trees.
(2 Kings 6:5 NKJV) But as one was cutting down a tree, the iron ax head fell into the water; and he cried out and said, "Alas, master! For it was borrowed."
(2 Kings 6:6 NKJV) So the man of God said, "Where did it fall?" And he showed him the place. So he cut off a stick, and threw it in there; and he made the iron float.
(2 Kings 6:7 NKJV) Therefore he said, "Pick it up for yourself." So he reached out his hand and took it.*

We get excited – but God takes us back

We get all excited and overwhelmed by something, we think it is lost, but God comes along and says lets go back to the point where things went wrong, point it out to me where it got lost, and when we do, He brings back to surface what we had that was right, but notice, he doesn't pick it up, He said pick it up for yourself.

Best Taught – Most Loved

What does this mean to us, this body of believers, this ekklesia, church? It is what God told me years ago, of what this church was to do on Sunday mornings.....Study the Word. To teach verse by verse. Make them the most loved, best taught sheep in the county.

What we have been doing on Thursday nights, is what we will do here on Sunday mornings, we will study the Bible book by book, chapter by chapter, verse by verse. If we finish on chapter 4, then the following study we will pick-up in chapter 5.

Evangelistic Sunday

Let me share with you the ministry style and philosophy we have here. Just as a Body has so many different parts and functions, so does the Body of Christ, this ekklesia. There are many churches today that it is Evangelistic Sunday, or Devotional Sunday. That is great for them, clearly what God called them to do, but not for this ministry. Evangelistic Sunday, probably 98-99% of the people who go to church on Sunday are already saved. So you are teaching an evangelistic message to only about 2% of the people. For the other 98%, they don't grow from the teaching.

*(Ephesians 4:11 NKJV) And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,
(Ephesians 4:12 NKJV) for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,
(Ephesians 4:13 NKJV) till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;*

Healthy Sheep Reproduce

What does that mean in a nutshell? Healthy Sheep Reproduce. Teach them the word, they start learning the word, they go out and start telling their co-worker whose marriage is struggling here is what the Word of God says about that, a person who is struggling with loneliness, anger, financial problems, etc, here is what the Word of God say about that. I love telling people about the things I learn in the Bible, I know you do too. I shared the Exodus 12 study again at work to a dog lover, it was powerful, it hit home with her.

Not only that, but lets be realistic, it is tough to make it on mid-week Bible Study, or if you do, many times you are wiped out from working all day. God has told me to teach to the 98%, and as for the other 2%, tell them this is what you are missing by not giving your life to Christ, why not today.

Devotional Sunday

As for Devotional Sunday, there are definitely times and seasons for that. Those times of sweet fellowship, the Word taking you right to the throne. But the problem with that every week, is again you don't grow in the knowledge of the Word, and when Monday comes, and Satan is attacking

your marriage, your work environment, whatever it is, you won't be feeling too devotional, and the throne will seem a long ways away, and that is when you need the knowledge of the Word of God to apply to that situation.

The church of the living God,

(Hebrews 4:12 NKJV) For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The pillar and ground of the truth.

The church, ekklesia, we as a body of believers, and the other hundreds of churches in this community, are to be the support and foundation of all truth.

More Important than Good Schools

When the church functions as God called it to do, it is the foundation of the whole community and world. A strong church is more important than good schools, elected officials, a strong economy, strong police force, and all other things, for the church is to be the support and foundation for the community.

You are Foundation the Foundation of Truth

Body, do you believe that today? Do you believe that you are that vital to this community. That all the churches in this country and world are that important? You should, for you are the support and foundation of truth. Anything that is built off of non-truths, will eventually collapse and crumble.

2 Guards against Un-truths

In chapter 4 We studied that God will give the church 2 things to guard themselves from these deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, these un-truths.....the Word of God, and strong Godly leadership. And in verse 6 God gives the Word for this fellowship, to me as the Pastor/Teacher, and to you as faithful ministers and teachers:

(1 Timothy 4:6 NKJV) If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.

Verse by verse will not grow a fellowship quickly

Verse by verse will not grow a fellowship quickly for it is a slow process making disciples. What you win people with is what you will keep them with. If you win them with special events and exciting programs, than that is what you will have to keep doing to keep them. Win them with the Word, and then you have this whole book to teach them.

(1 Timothy 4:7 NKJV) But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness.

(1 Timothy 4:8 NKJV) For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

This is the training room

We are to train ourselves for godliness. Godliness means God likeness. This is the training room, this is the Christian weight room. I remember several years ago I was going to go out west to Utah and ski. Now I had never skied hills like that on the East Coast, I had never see hill that steep and long. So I started to train, I was running, I was hitting the squat rack and Stairmaster, I

trained hard. When I got there and look down those hills, I was glad I trained the way I did. Now I could have went out in the shape I was in and survived, but I didn't go out there to survive, but to take full advantage of what was before.

Christian, what type of training are you doing

Christian, what type of training are you doing. As for skiing I could have shown up and seen what happened, but as Christians living in this world today we can't expect some magical anointing when the need arises, we have to be in a daily regiment of spiritual exercise. Survival isn't what God is looking for in the Christian life or ministry, He is looking for so much more.

If the Lord was to double this bible Study, who will be ready to step up to that challenge? Those who start training now are the ones who God will use then.

(1 Timothy 4:13 NKJV) Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

Exhortation - paraklesis, par-ak'-lay-sis; imploration, exhortation, solace:--comfort, consolation, exhortation, intreaty. – all of which mean to draw near, come alongside.

it will come alongside

The Word will draw you near to God, it will come alongside of you to tell you what to do with the what you just read.

***The Church of the living God,
The pillar and ground of the truth.***

Science Fiction

1 Timothy 6:20-21

**(1 Timothy 6:20 KJV) O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:
(1 Timothy 6:21 KJV) Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen.**

Intimidated by the Intellectuals – there is no personal God

Again, Paul is writing this young Pastor Timothy to instruct and guide him in the ministry. Timothy being young, would have been easily intimidated by guys that would come on the scene with all this spiritual or academic knowledge. They would say Timothy you don't get it, you haven't been educated by in the finest Universities by the brightest teachers in the world. These so-called intellectuals, the educated, those with the Masters and PHD's, would say Timothy, science disproves conclusively that there is a personal creative God.

Paul says, - [slide](#)

(1 Timothy 6:20 KJV) O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:

Science Based on Facts

There was a time when science was based on factual evidence, something you could prove, but today it is based many times on nothingness. It can seem so intimidating when they pour all their so-called Scientific Facts on us.

College Education

I'm reminded of the story of the young man who came home from his first semester in college at a big city university, his dad, a blue-collar worker, says how was it son, oh it was great dad we are learning so many things. As the son goes on the dad could detect a tone and attitude that his son was talking down to him because his father never went to college. As the son went on he said dad, science fascinates me, we created an acid in the lab that can eat through anything, and dad we created that right in our very lab he says proudly. Thinking he just proved he is now the smart one of the family and that his father is just a hunk from the steel mills he sits down in front of his father with the "what do you think of that look". The dad shakes his head, that's good son, so what do you keep it in?

Cross-Examined by the Obvious

Evolution, it looks so solid, so sure of itself, until it cross-examined by the obvious. This study will look at some of the obvious errors of science, the major contradictions this evolution theory has against the facts of science.

Evolution – Replacement to Creation

Evolution comes in with all its facts, now and then they may confess it is just a theory, but go into the high schools and universities and you don't hear them teaching it as an alternative to Creation, but in replacement of Creation.

World Based on 2 Laws

This whole world is energy, therefore all Science is based on 2 Laws. If you violate any one of these law, then your theory has to be thrown out. Because without energy, there is no power to perform anything. Energy is the building block of the Universe.

So we will take an obvious look at these Laws and what they mean to Evolution.

The First Law of Thermodynamics- slide

The First Law of Thermodynamics is known as the “Law of Energy Conservation”. It states that energy cannot be created nor destroyed; it can only change from one form to another. Simply meaning there is no new energy being created.

Energy for Big Bang

For the Evolution Theory the question has to be asked if energy cannot be created nor destroyed, then where did the energy come for the “Big Bang.”

Genesis Account ----Bara/Asah- slide

Interesting, in Genesis God uses two different words for create. One word is to create out of nothing; the other is to create out of existing substance.

(Genesis 1:1 KJV) In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Bara – means to create out of nothing

(Genesis 1:7 KJV) And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.

Asah – create from existing

How did the writer of Genesis almost 4,000 years ago know the First Law of Thermodynamics.

The Second Law of Thermodynamics- slide

The Second Law of Thermodynamics is known as the “Law of Energy Decay.” Every system left to itself will move from order to disorder.

Examples

A few practical examples is that new car you paid 20,000\$ for five years doesn't look so new now does it. You that are 40, go look at your High School Class photo. Go look at your kids' room a day after you cleaned it.

Disorder cannot Evolve in Order

The Second Law therefore concludes that disorder cannot evolve into order, neither can a simple structure evolve into a more complex one. The First Law of Thermodynamics prevents a “Big Bang” from happening from nothing, and the Second Law prevents that bang (which never could have happened) from ever organizing into the complex ordered system we call our universe.

Scriptures- slide

*(Isaiah 51:6 KJV) Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, **and the earth shall wax old like a garment**,*

*(Matthew 24:35 KJV) **Heaven and earth shall pass away**, but my words shall not pass away.*

(Psalms 102:25 NKJV) Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands.

(Psalms 102:26 NKJV) They will perish, but You will endure; Yes, they will all grow old like a garment; Like a cloak You will change them, And they will be changed.

(Psalms 102:27 NKJV) But You are the same, And Your years will have no end.

Now by violating these two laws there is nothing left to build the Evolution Theory, but we might as well dispel some other key points:

The 3rd Law of Motion- slide

The 3rd Law of Motion states that for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction, and no effect can be greater than the cause.

No Magic Tornadoes

This means that a tornado could not come through a junk yard and a fully functional Boeing 747 be the outcome

This law leads us to the question of how can we explain such a highly complex ordered system the universe is in if it all began with a big explosion.

Our Galaxy- slide

Our Universe is made up of countless Galaxies, within each galaxy are many solar systems (with each solar system consisting of a burning star and its family of sub planets). Our Galaxy is called the Milky Way. It is estimated that there are about 100 billion stars in our galaxy alone. And, are you ready for this, within telescope range there are about 100 million other such galaxies like ours, and who knows how many beyond that.

The earth is 93 million miles from the sun, and Pluto which is the last planet in our solar system, on the average stays 3.6 billion miles from the sun, that means this solar system is 7 billion miles in diameter. Consider this is just one solar system that comprises our whole Galaxy. Just take my conservation calculation, if there are 100 million galaxies, each 7 billion miles in diameter, then the universe is 700,000,000,000,000, miles in diameter.

66.600mph / 24hr spin

Here is what is most interesting: The earth orbits the sun one time a year at the speed of 66,600mph. That speed is just enough to offset the gravitation pull of the sun, for if the speed was any greater it would pull away from the sun and freeze, if it was any slower it would pull closer to the sun and be scorched. The earth rotates on its axis every 24 hours, giving equal amounts of light and darkness, if it didn't the earth would either be a desert or a sub-zero wasteland.

9 subplanets / 100million Galaxies in Motion-

Even more amazing is the fact that the other 8 planets in our solar system have to stay on their exact paths, if they did not they would collide into each other destroying themselves. If we look at the big picture, every solar system within every 100 million plus galaxies throughout the universe must stay in perfect order or else galaxies would start colliding into galaxy destroying themselves.

Scriptures - slide

How do explain how the universe this vast is held together?

(Isaiah 48:13 KJV) Mine hand also hath laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand hath spanned the heavens: when I call unto them, they stand up together.

(Psalms 147:4 NKJV) He counts the number of the stars; He calls them all by name.

(Psalms 147:5 NKJV) Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite.

(Isaiah 40:22 NKJV) It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.

The Law of Biogenesis - slide

The Law of Biogenesis says that life can only arise from life which is similar to itself.

Evolution defies this law, because they say life evolved from inorganic (no life present) substance into an organic (life present) substance. So you start with nothing, then electrons form, then protons, then atoms, then amino acids, then nucleotides, then proteins, then DNA, then protozoa, then fish, amphibians, reptiles, mammals, and then man.

So in the beginning all this matter was floating around space, then it formed together into a mass and exploded. Over time it formed into the solar systems we know today, and then building blocks of life appeared out of this organic matter, and then life began to evolve.

Glass of Water- slide

Now, if I took a glass of water and said tomorrow a man will pop out of it, you would say I'm crazy. If I said in 1 Billion years a man would pop out, people would say that's possible. Given enough time anything can happen. That is what the backbone of Evolution is, Time, for they need time to cover all the Scientific Laws they defy.

Billions of Years for Evolution

They say evolution is a process that would take billions of years to happen. Given enough time anything is possible, for the Evolution Theory, they estimate the age of the universe between 9-15 billion years old.

Shrinking Sun

Now back to the First Law of Thermodynamics, which states that Energy cannot be created nor destroyed, it can only change properties.

The Sun is shrinking at the rate of 0.1 percent per century, or the equivalent of 5 feet per hour. It changes properties as it is absorbed into the other planets (Hence the global warming we are seeing today). At this rate 100,000 years ago the sun would have been twice as large as it is today. The size and radiation of the sun 1,000,000 years ago would have made life on the earth impossible. 20 million years ago the sun would have been large enough to touch the earth. The size of the sun millions of years ago nullifies the Evolution Theory, for they say they needed billions of years for the first life form to develop.

The Earth's Magnetic Field

Analysis and data collected over the last 130 years shows that the earth's magnetic field is getting weaker and weaker every year. If we were to reverse the decay recorded, and add it up backwards, to just 30,000 years ago then the magnetic strength of the earth would have been sufficient enough to generate temperatures in excess of 5000 degree Celsius. This temperature is sufficient to melt or vaporize the elements of the earth.

The Moon Dust

When we went to the Moon, all the smart people there at NASA were basing the age of the Universe on millions of years old. Go to the Smithsonian in DC and you will see in the museum of natural history everything is based on an Old earth, billions and billions of years old, all this came from the theory of Evolution. Well with the use of satellite technology the scientist are capable of determining how much cosmic dust filters into the earth atmosphere every year. They calculated that the moon would gather at the same rate as the earth, and based on 4.5 billion years, there would be over 50 feet of cosmic dust. They calculated that in when they designed the Lunar Module, and that is why there are those big pads on the base, so they wouldn't sink into the dust.

When they landed they found only a few inches of dust, what would be equivalent to less than 10,000 years of accumulation.

Obvious fact, there wasn't billion and billion of years for evolution to happen; the Laws of Thermodynamics prove it.

We could cover other areas if time permitted, such as the:

Fossil Record- slide

Darwin said the key to validating the Evolution theory would be the Fossil Record, that there will be transitional fossils. 1859 Darwin wrote, "the Origin of the Species." Still to this day, almost 150 years later, still no transitional form found.

Geological Column slide

Uses circular reasoning. It is based on the evolutionary theory, that lower simple organisms evolved into more complex organisms. For example protozoa into fish, into amphibian, into reptiles, into mammal, into man. Then they estimate how many billions years it would take to evolve from each stage. Then, when they find a fossil, say a fish, they go to their table and say this fossil is so many billion years old. Our country has bought into it because if you go to the museum of natural History, you will see the Geological Column when you enter the display, and then see every display is dated millions of years old.

The Missing Link - slide

The search continues.

The Monkey Business

Heidleberg Man

Built from a jawbone

Nebraska Man, 1922 (Henry Osborn)

Built from just one tooth

Later discover to be an extinct pig

Pitldown Man, 1912 (Charles Dawson)

Built from a jaw bone of a modern ape

A deliberate fraud. Filed and treated with iron salts

Peking Man, 1921

Evidence disappeared, an outright fraud

Neanderthal man

Found in a cave in the Neander Valley near Dusseldorf

Int'l Congress of Zoology, 1958, determined was an old man suffering from arthritis

Java Man, 1922

Concealed evidence, teeth were of an orangutan.

Mutations - slide

Scientific test prove that 99% of mutations are harmful, yet evolution say it is that 1% over billion of years that have created these amazing bodies we live in.

The Human Body / DNA- slide

Just the human eye, amazing, the human eye has 100 million rods and cones, and the neurons perform 10 billion calculations per second. Charles Darwin himself said the chance of the human eye evolving is ludicrous.

(Psalms 139:13 NKJV) For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb.

(Psalms 139:14 NKJV) I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.

We Walk By Faith

For us who believe, for most of us we didn't need to know all these things, we saw beyond the universe, we looked at the depth of our sin and what it cost, God's only Son.

(2 Corinthians 5:7 KJV) (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

The bible isn't a book of science, but when it speaks of science it is always right on: - [slide](#)

The Earth Hangs on Nothing

--- (Job 26:7 NKJV) *He stretches out the north over empty space; **He hangs the earth on nothing.***

This was written 4,000 years ago when the common belief that the earth was held up by four elephants standing on a turtle.

The Round Earth

- ----(Isaiah 40:22 NKJV) *It is He who sits **above the circle of the earth**, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.*
- Written approximately 2,700 years ago. Yet it was just 1492 Columbus sailed the Ocean Blue, and everyone said he was going to fall off the face of the earth because the earth was flat.

The Earth's Water Cycle

- --- (Ecclesiastes 1:7 NKJV) *All the rivers run into the sea, Yet the sea is not full; To the place from which the rivers come, **There they return again.***
- Written 3,000 years ago

The Expanding Universe

- ---- (Isaiah 51:13 KJV) *And forgettest the LORD thy maker, that hath **stretched forth the heavens**, and laid the foundations of the earth;*
- Science has proven that the universe is expanding and this was written 2,700 years ago. The word "stretched forth" means to keep expanding.

Light Divides

- (Job 38:24 KJV) ***By what way is the light parted**, which scattereth the east wind upon the earth?*
- The Light spectrum, was only discovered a few hundred years ago.

Paths in the Sea

- (Psalms 8:8 KJV) *The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever **passeth through the paths of the seas.***
- Paths in the sea wasn't known in the shipping industry until only a hundred or so years ago.

The Jet Stream

- (Ecclesiastes 1:6 NKJV) *The wind goes toward the south, And turns around to the north; The wind whirls about continually, **And comes again on its circuit.***

Thermodynamic Principles

- (2 Peter 3:10 KJV) *But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, **and the elements shall melt with fervent heat**, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.*

- Spoken of in the Bible 2000 years ago.

Why do people buy into this

Why do people buy into this, It's a moral question, people will say I have a problem with this, if there is a God the why doesn't He show Himself, then why is their pain and suffering in the world, then why, then why. But the issue is clearly shown in the Bible

Romans 1:20-25 - - slide

(Romans 1:20 NKJV) For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

(Romans 1:21 NKJV) because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

(Romans 1:22 NKJV) Professing to be wise, they became fools,

(Romans 1:23 NKJV) and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man; and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

(Romans 1:24 NKJV) Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves,

(Romans 1:25 NKJV) who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

This Man will not rule over Us

To acknowledge that He does exist, that we are not a happening of random chances, would mean every man is answerable to Him. But for many, they do not want any King in their life, for they want to be on the throne of their lives, doing as they see is reasonable and allowable.

(Luke 19:14 KJV) But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us.

(John 19:12 KJV) And from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him: but the Jews cried out, saying, If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend: whosoever maketh himself a king speaketh against Caesar.

People are so deceived, if only they knew that the greatest freedom comes when you surrender your life to him. They have the God who created the heaven and earth, who died for their sins, ready to live with them.

John 3:16-21 - slide

It all comes down to, people love their sin. John 3:19.

(John 3:16 NKJV) "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

(John 3:17 NKJV) "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

(John 3:18 NKJV) "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

(John 3:19 NKJV) "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

(John 3:20 NKJV) "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

(John 3:21 NKJV) "But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

I met a man who said I tried to be an evolutionist, but I didn't have enough faith. It is true, it will take more faith to follow evolution, then to follow Jesus.

This Body isn't Fit for Heaven

He created us, the body we live in is for this planet, we need a new one before we go to heaven. Time to trade it in, for this earth and that is in it is going to fade away like an old garment.