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*English Standard Version*

# *1 Timothy*

THE CHURCH,  
THE PILLAR AND SUPPORT  
OF THE TRUTH

IN & OUT<sup>®</sup>

*English Standard Version*

## 1 TIMOTHY

THE CHURCH, THE PILLAR AND SUPPORT OF THE TRUTH

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## **“I am writing these things to you . . . .”**

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

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

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

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

### **TAKING IT IN**

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

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

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

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



This is where we will begin.

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

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

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

2) On the map, locate the places mentioned in 1 Timothy 1:3.

- e. List any subjects (topics) you observe in this first chapter.









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

Pray and then do the following:

- a. Review what you observed about Paul and Timothy in this letter and the substance of each chapter.
  - b. Now go back and look at the chart “Sequence of Events in Paul’s Life after His Conversion.” What’s the historical setting of this letter . . . where does it fit in time and in the life of Paul and Timothy?
  
  - c. What categories or groups of people are referred to in this letter?
- 
7. In the Appendix, you’ll find “1 Timothy at a Glance.”
    - a. You’ve seen why Paul wrote 1 Timothy. Record it under “Purpose,” along with the chapter and verse where you found it.
    - b. Now fill in the “Author,” as well as the “Date,” which you saw on “Sequence of Events in Paul’s Life after His Conversion.”
    - c. That’s all for now, but we’ll continue to use this chart throughout our study of 1 Timothy.



LIVING  
IT OUT

1. Just from your first observations of 1 Timothy, list at least three ways the content of this letter is pertinent for your life.

2. Finally, how committed are you to studying God's Word and discovering truth for yourself? Or do you prefer to simply have someone else tell you what to believe?



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

*And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

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

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



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***1 Timothy***  
*Lesson 1, Overview*



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## 1 TIMOTHY 1

### Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

**PAUL**, an apostle of Christ Jesus by command of God our Savior and of  
Christ Jesus our hope,

**2** To Timothy, my true child in the faith:

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

**3** As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so  
that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine,

**4** nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which  
promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by  
faith.

**5** The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good  
conscience and a sincere faith.

**6** Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain  
discussion,

**7** desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what  
they are saying or the things about which they make confident  
assertions.

**8** Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully,

**9** understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the  
lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and  
profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers,

**10** the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars,  
perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine,



- 11 in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.
- 12** I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service,
- 13 though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief,
- 14 and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.
- 15 The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.
- 16 But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life.
- 17 To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.
- 18** This charge I entrust to you, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies previously made about you, that by them you may wage the good warfare,
- 19 holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting this, some have made shipwreck of their faith,
- 20 among whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.





## 1 TIMOTHY 2 Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

- FIRST of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people,
- 2 for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.
  - 3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior,
  - 4 who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
  - 5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,
  - 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.
  - 7 For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.
  - 8 I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling;
  - 9 likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire,
  - 10 but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works.
  - 11 Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness.
  - 12 I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet.
  - 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve;



- 14 and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.
- 15 Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.



## 1 TIMOTHY 3

### Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

**THE** saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task.

- 2 Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,
- 3 not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money.
- 4 He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive,
- 5 for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church?
- 6 He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil.
- 7 Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.
- 8 Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain.
- 9 They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.
- 10 And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless.
- 11 Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things.
- 12 Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well.



- 13 For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.
- 14 I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that,
- 15 if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.
- 16 Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:  
    He was manifested in the flesh,  
        vindicated by the Spirit,  
        seen by angels,  
    proclaimed among the nations,  
        believed on in the world,  
        taken up in glory.



## 1 TIMOTHY 4

### Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

- NOW** the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons,
- 2 through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared,
  - 3 who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.
  - 4 For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving,
  - 5 for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer.
  - 6 If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed.
  - 7 Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness;
  - 8 for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.
  - 9 The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance.
  - 10 For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe.
  - 11 Command and teach these things.



- 12 Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.
- 13 Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.
- 14 Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you.
- 15 Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress.
- 16 Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.



## 1 TIMOTHY 5

### Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

- DO** not rebuke an older man but encourage him as you would a father,  
younger men as brothers,
- 2 older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity.
  - 3 Honor widows who are truly widows.
  - 4 But if a widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show godliness to their own household and to make some return to their parents, for this is pleasing in the sight of God.
  - 5 She who is truly a widow, left all alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day,
  - 6 but she who is self-indulgent is dead even while she lives.
  - 7 Command these things as well, so that they may be without reproach.
  - 8 But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.
  - 9 Let a widow be enrolled if she is not less than sixty years of age, having been the wife of one husband,
  - 10 and having a reputation for good works: if she has brought up children, has shown hospitality, has washed the feet of the saints, has cared for the afflicted, and has devoted herself to every good work.
  - 11 But refuse to enroll younger widows, for when their passions draw them away from Christ, they desire to marry
  - 12 and so incur condemnation for having abandoned their former faith.



- 13 Besides that, they learn to be idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not.
- 14 So I would have younger widows marry, bear children, manage their households, and give the adversary no occasion for slander.
- 15 For some have already strayed after Satan.
- 16 If any believing woman has relatives who are widows, let her care for them. Let the church not be burdened, so that it may care for those who are truly widows.
- 17 Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching.
- 18 For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain,” and, “The laborer deserves his wages.”
- 19 Do not admit a charge against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses.
- 20 As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear.
- 21 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels I charge you to keep these rules without prejudging, doing nothing from partiality.
- 22 Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, nor take part in the sins of others; keep yourself pure.
- 23 (No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.)
- 24 The sins of some people are conspicuous, going before them to judgment, but the sins of others appear later.
- 25 So also good works are conspicuous, and even those that are not cannot remain hidden.





## 1 TIMOTHY 6

### Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

LET all who are under a yoke as bondservants regard their own masters as worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and the teaching may not be reviled.

2 Those who have believing masters must not be disrespectful on the ground that they are brothers; rather they must serve all the better since those who benefit by their good service are believers and beloved.

Teach and urge these things.

3 If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness,

4 he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions,

5 and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain.

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain,

7 for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world.

8 But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.

9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.



- 11 But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness.
- 12 Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.
- 13 I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession,
- 14 to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- 15 which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords,
- 16 who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.
- 17 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.
- 18 They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share,
- 19 thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.
- 20 O Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the irreverent babble and contradictions of what is falsely called “knowledge,”
- 21 for by professing it some have swerved from the faith.
- Grace be with you.



## 1 TIMOTHY AT A GLANCE

**Book Theme:**

**Author:**

**Date:**

**Purpose:**

**Key Words:**

Chapter Themes	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	





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

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

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

14 years, Galatians 2:1

3 years





