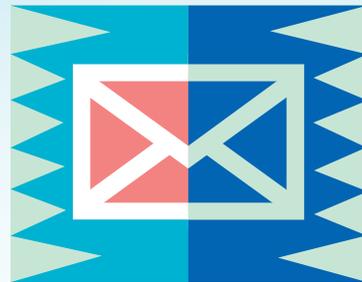


# New Testament Survey

# Church Leadership

Studying 1 Timothy and Titus



*For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.*

1 Thessalonians 2:13

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CBLT

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# Church Leadership

## *1 Timothy and Titus*



### **LESSON OUTLINE**

- I. Introduction
- II. Leadership in the Church
  - A. Exploring 1 Timothy
  - B. Establishing the Historical Perspective
    - 1. Authorship and Audience
    - 2. Date
    - 3. Geography
    - 4. General Background
  - C. Examining the Content
    - 1. Theme
    - 2. Key Verse
    - 3. Teachings and Topics
    - 4. 1 Timothy: Jesus Christ, Our Teacher
- III. Grace to Do Good
  - A. Exploring Titus
  - B. Establishing the Historical Perspective
    - 1. Authorship and Audience
    - 2. Date
    - 3. Geography
  - C. Examining the Content
    - 1. Theme
    - 2. Key Verse
    - 3. Teachings and Topics
    - 4. Titus: Jesus Christ, Our Pattern
- IV. Conclusion

Self Test

Appendix 1. Let's Look At 1 Timothy

Appendix 2. Let's Look At Titus

Appendix 3. Kingdom Bible Studies

## LESSON OBJECTIVES

By the end of this lesson you should:

1. Have a fresh acquaintance with Timothy and Titus.
2. Know the author, audience, basic outline, theme, key verse, and primary instructions of 1 Timothy and Titus.
3. Understand the practical outcome if we follow the instruction of these books.
4. Have examined the qualifications for church leaders in the New Testament as compared to your church.
5. Seek to be an encouragement to your church leaders.
6. Evaluate yourself by Biblical qualifications for church leadership.

## LESSON ASSIGNMENTS

1. Complete all questions and Exercises.
2. Read through the entire books of 1 Timothy and Titus.
3. Read Mears 16 and 18.

## WORD STUDY

**Doxology**—an expression of praise which can be used in church services as a hymn of praise or a benediction

**Godliness**--characterized by reverence and love for God and respect for the ethical teachings of scripture; piety put into action

**Imperial Cult**—the worship of the Roman emperor as god

# I. Introduction

In this lesson we will cover two letters from Paul that are called the Pastoral Epistles. These letters were written closer to the end of his life as far as we understand it, and they include both 1 and 2 Timothy as well as Titus. Paul was writing on a different level than he had earlier. The church was maturing and beginning to organize as it grew. So Paul is trying to help not just Timothy and Titus, but also the churches that they were overseeing to seek spiritual priorities in how the churches were led, and to refute false teachings. Paul is writing as the shepherd to his undershepherds for the good of the whole flock.

This lesson consist of questions, exercises and assignments that will help you to dig into these epistles, opening up your understanding to the context in which they were written, and helping you to interact with God's Word. There are answers in the workbook to help you if you get stuck. In addition there is a self test included so that you can review what you have learned.

You need to have a Bible or New Testament which you will feel free to mark up as you will be required to make many markings. When you read, always keep a pen beside you so that you can mark whenever you find something particularly important to you. You will also need a personal notebook for written assignments. In addition there is a supplement, *New Testament Geography*

and *Chronology*, which you must have to complete some of the exercises. If you did not receive one, please ask your leader.

You can do this study on your own, but it will be much more beneficial if you meet with a group and discuss what you are learning and discovering. We are meant to help and encourage and share with each other. It gives all of us more insights and greater joy. And then there is the issue of accountability. So often we have good intentions, but... Life is full and we easily lay aside a study, and then it gets buried. We need to spur each other on! Knowing that you are going to meet with a group often provides that extra incentive to dig in and learn. And every moment spent in the Word of God will build truth into your life and faith in your heart.

## II. Leadership in the Church

### A. Exploring 1 Timothy

We hope that you have taken the time to read this book of 6 chapters before you start this study. As you read and study use the following outline to help you keep the overall focus. If you have this outline well in mind it will also help you to locate information in the future.

OUTLINE OF 1 TIMOTHY		
I.	Warning against false teaching	1
II.	Instructions for administration of the church	2-3
III.	How to deal with false teaching	4
IV.	Dealing with different groups in the church	5:1-6:2
V.	Final instructions and charge to Timothy	6:3-21



#### Exercise 1

*Mark key words.* Take your pencils and Bible in hand once again to begin discovering some of the vital issues of this letter. Please mark the words in the indicated color.

Yellow -- “Godliness”

Purple -- “Faith”

Red -- “Teach” (including “teaching” and “teacher”)

### B. Establishing the Historical Perspective

#### 1. Authorship and Audience



**Question 1** In which verse is it indicated that Paul is the author?

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Modern liberal scholarship disputes the authorship of virtually every book of the Bible, often claiming that someone else wrote in Paul’s name or others. This is also the case with 1 Timothy. However, like many of the other books in the New Testament whose authorship is now disputed, 1 Timothy has been accepted as part of the New Testament canon since the early centuries of Christianity. Until recent years the authorship was not disputed and this new “scholarship” has no concrete claims, rather it is based on speculation and personal assumptions.



**Question 2** Who was Paul writing to and where was the recipient?

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Even though Paul is addressing this letter directly to his son in the faith, Timothy, we see in the content that there was a lot of it that was intended to be passed onto the church.



**Question 3** What do you think Timothy's position was in the church?

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## 2. Date

First Timothy was probably written around A.D. 62 although it could have been written as late as A.D. 67. Paul had been in prison in Rome for two years and then was apparently released as in 1 Timothy 1:3 he writes about traveling to Macedonia from Ephesus. Most likely 1 Timothy was written from either Macedonia or Corinth.



### Exercise 2

Mark 1 Timothy on the dateline. Turn to the supplement, *New Testament Geography and Chronology*, now and write "1 Timothy" on the appropriate blank on the chronology section.

## 3. Geography



### Exercise 3

Plot Macedonia on Map 1 in the supplement. Also locate the region of Macedonia on Map 2 and note the distance between it and Ephesus and between Corinth and Ephesus.

## 4. General Background



**Question 4** During which missionary journey was the church in Ephesus planted? How long was he there? See Acts 19-20. Use the dateline for reference if needed.

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The church at Ephesus was not the kind of church that we commonly think of today. Very likely they did not have a building to meet in or regular services (10:00 on Sunday morning), but simply met in each other's homes as frequently as they could. The "church at Ephesus" would have most likely included all the believers that lived in the towns surrounding Ephesus as well, so there were very likely a number of small groups which made up the "church".

When Paul visited Ephesus after his release at Rome, he discovered that during his absence the church was being plagued with all kinds of spiritual problems. The city itself, with all its corruption and idolatry, was proving to be a spiritual battleground for the congregation of believers... Paul stayed a while and tried to help the people as much as he could. When he had to leave for Macedonia, he left Timothy at Ephesus to continue what he had started (1 Tim. 1:3).

The congregations of Ephesus were five to eight years old when Paul wrote 1 Timothy.<sup>1</sup>



**Question 5** Based on the information in Lesson 5 and Acts 19, what were some things which might have caused spiritual struggles for the Ephesians?

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**Question 6** According to 1 Timothy why did Paul leave Timothy in Ephesus?

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## C. Examining the Content

### 1. Theme

As we look at the reasons why Paul wrote this letter we could choose several themes. Paul was dealing with very practical issues in the churches, all issues which we continue to deal with today. There are always those who will for their own purposes try to bring false teachings into the church. And there are always ungrounded believers who will be easily led astray.

As the overall theme of 1 Timothy we have chosen:

**A godly life and sound doctrine are the two key elements  
to combat false teaching.**

The godly life is a matter of character. Sound doctrine comes through living a life close to God and diligently filling one's mind with the Scriptures and the principles contained in them. This should be the priority of any leader in the church. You could also define *sound doctrine* as "sound or godly teaching".

### 2. Key Verse

Although there are several contenders for "key verse" in 1 Timothy, 1 Timothy 4:16 seems to most accurately sum up the content and attitude of the epistle.



**Question 7** Write 1 Timothy 4:16 here:

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**Question 8** How does this verse support the theme?

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<sup>1</sup> Irving L. Jensen, *Jensen's Survey of the New Testament* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1981), 375.

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### 3. Teachings and Topics

#### Church leadership



#### Exercise 4

Define the qualities of a spiritual leader. Make a chart in your exercise book based on 1 Timothy 3:1-13 with 3 columns as the example below. In the first column put the verse, the second column the qualification as written in the Bible, and the third column, which should have the most room, your definition or understanding of that term.

Vs	Qualification	Definition

#### Clear conscience



**Question 9** Read verses 1:5; 1:19; 3:9; 4:2. In each of these verses mark the word *conscience* in the color brown. Make a final statement on having a clear conscience.

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Spend some time over the next day examining your conscience. Are there things that keep coming to your mind that you feel guilty about? Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you. As you think about these things, is this true guilt from breaking the Scriptures? Do you need to confess your sin to God? Are there others involved and you need to make something right with them? Make a list of these things and begin to deal with them so that you can stand before God with a clear conscience. Progress in godliness demands that we regularly allow God to examine us, and that we make it a priority to deal with these things immediately so we can say like Paul, “I have lived my life with a perfectly good conscience before God up to this day” (Acts 23:1).

#### Warnings about false teaching

Paul has dealt with false teaching in several of his letters. The difference in this letter is that it seems like the false teachers were originating in the local congregation. This would make it a bit different situation, and more difficult to deal with, especially for a younger man.

#### Godliness

This term is used more frequently in this epistle than any of the others. We can define *godliness* as character and conduct which is based on both a love and fear of God. The motivation behind godliness is both to please God and to be like Him. There is something that looks like godliness, as we see in 2 Timothy 3:2-5, but it is merely a dead form of religion.

**Food for Thought**

What false teachings have you come across?

It is important to remember that false teaching is about the gospel, not just differences in doctrine.



**Question 10** Summarize 2 Timothy 3:2-5 on the lines below.

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**Question 11** Now write the definition of godliness from the “Word Study” here.

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Obviously godliness is the opposite of those characteristics listed in 2 Timothy 3:2-5. It is about embracing God and serving Him. With that in mind, look at where you have *godliness* marked in 1 Timothy and answer these questions.



**Question 12** How does Paul describe a godly woman?

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**Question 13** How can godliness be achieved?

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**Question 14** What is the profit of godliness?

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### Food for Thought

What are some of the things which get in the way of your pursuit of godliness? What reward do those things have in this life? What reward do they have eternally?

What is the spiritual profit of your life right now? If you were to die now, what would be the eternal profit of your life?

According to 1 Timothy 6, godliness precludes greed. Paul says that there are those who think that godliness will give them financial gain. In our day and age there are still people who think that way; people who become pastors, television preachers/evangelists or even missionaries because they think that it will give them money, power or prestige.



**Question 15** What is Paul’s response to this kind of attitude?

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Furthermore, Paul urged Timothy to flee from the ungodly things and to *pursue* godliness. Godliness will not just come to us, we have to work towards it and actively seek it!

### Doxologies

There are two beautiful doxologies in this book which lift our thoughts into the wonder of God. These are found in 1:17 and 6:15b-16. Paul’s heart was always full of praise to God, even in his darkest hours, and these can be a great inspiration to us to echo passages like this in our own praise times, whether in the church or by ourselves.



### Exercise 5

*Underline the doxologies in 1 Timothy.*

Two other topics that you may wish to study in 1 Timothy are:

**Intercessory prayer**

1 Timothy 2:1-4.

**Wealth**

1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19.

**6. 1 Timothy: Jesus Christ, Our Teacher**

Read Appendix 1 and then answer the following questions.



**Question 16** How were leaders prepared for the early church? Give an example of what this would have looked like.

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**Warning Against False Teaching**



**Question 17** Why is it important to keep your conscience true?

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**Question 18** Why is it important to live a pure life?

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**Directions for the Church**



**Question 19** Why should a pastor not be a new believer?

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**Directions for the Pastor**



**Question 20** What is the best way to combat any error?

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**Question 21** What would the purpose be of rebuking a church leader publicly for sin?

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**Question 22** Complete Dr. Mears' "Oral Exam before God" and write your score here.

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**Question 23** Now that we are at the end of our study on 1 Timothy why do you think Dr. Mears chose the title *Teacher* for Jesus?

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## III. Grace to Do Good

### A. Exploring Titus

If you have not already done so take the time right now to read Titus in one sitting. This reading should be a quick skim to simply get the gist of the book and should not take you more than ten minutes.

Now that you have this orientation, do the following exercise.



#### Exercise 6

*Mark key words.* Focus now on some of the key words in Titus. Please mark the words in the indicated color.

Orange -- “Doctrine”

Green -- “Deed(s)”

Purple -- “Faith”

Outline of Titus	
Introduction	1:1–4
I. Description of a True Elder	1:5–9
II. The False Teacher	1:10–16
III. Five Classes of Believers Instructed	2:1–10
IV. Instructing Believers in General	2:11 – 3:11
Conclusion	3:12–15



**Question 24** What are the 5 groups of believers that are instructed in chapter 2?

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### B. Establishing the Historical Perspective

#### 1. Authorship and Audience

Paul identifies himself as the author in 1:1.



**Question 25** How does he describe himself in this letter?

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**Question 26** To whom was the epistle written? Cite the verse which gives you this information.

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Sometimes a question like this may seem obvious when the title that we have now for the book states the name, but we want you to establish the pattern of looking for and understanding that these things are taken from the text, and were not just assigned on a whim.



**Question 27** Where was Titus when he received this letter?

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**Question 28** What was Titus encouraged to do in 3:13?

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From this admonition it is generally assumed that these were the men who brought Paul's letter to Titus.

Let's look a little more closely at Titus and see what we can learn about him. The first notable thing is that he is often mentioned in the New Testament, but not in the book of Acts. This gives us some idea of what a nutshell version we have of the happenings in the early church and the various leaders and helpers involved. Titus is mentioned quite a few times in 2 Corinthians so we know that he played a part in that church as well as the situation in Crete.



**Question 29** Look up the following references and after each one write what you have learned about Titus, either about his activities or him as a person:

a. 2 Corinthians 8:23

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b. 2 Corinthians 7:6,7

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c. 2 Corinthians 8:16

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d. 2 Corinthians 12:18

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e. Galatians 2:1

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f. Galatians 2:3

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g. Titus 1:4

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## 2. Date

According to Irving Jensen, Titus was probably written in A.D. 62, "while the apostle was in Macedonia, enroute to Nicopolis."<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid., p. 386.



**Question 30** What verse in Titus would lend credence to this statement?

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### 3. Geography

Crete is a large island in the Mediterranean Sea. We can assume it was not an easy place to have a church with the testimony about the Cretans in Titus 1:12.



#### Exercise 7

*Find Crete on your map. Note where Crete is on Map 2 in the supplement and highlight it in green.*

Paul wanted to meet Titus in Nicopolis (Titus 3:12). It may be difficult to find Nicopolis on your maps. It was located in Greece on a peninsula which stretched into the Ionian Sea. During the time of Paul it was an important trade city.

## C. Examining the Content

### 1. Theme

As you will have noticed when you were marking key words in your Bible, good deeds are mentioned frequently. It is strongly stated in 3:5 that we are not saved by our good deeds but strictly by the mercy of God. However we are admonished to do good as a recurring theme. Therefore we have chosen for this book:

**Good deeds express God's grace and influence others for Christ.**

It is important as we consider this theme that we do not promote good deeds as a way of "keeping" our salvation. Our salvation is based strictly on God's grace as we see in Titus 2:11, "For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men" and 3:5, "He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit". However we can measure our own life with Christ as we consider how given we are to do good deeds. Look back over the verses which you have marked for "deeds" and remind yourself what is being said here.

### 2. Key Verse

With the theme of good deeds in mind the key verse to Titus can be identified as Titus 3:14.



**Question 31** Write Titus 3:14 on the lines below.

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### 3. Teachings and Topics

#### ***A summary of sound doctrine***

In Titus 2:11-14 we have one of the most complete summaries of sound doctrine that we can find in Scripture. Read this passage over and then fill in the following questions which are based on this passage.



**Question 32** What do we learn about the grace of God in vs. 11?

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**Question 33** What does it teach us to deny?

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**Question 34** How should we live in this present age?

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**Question 35** What is our blessed hope?

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**Question 36** What do we see that Jesus has done for us in vs. 14?

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**Question 37** And what are we to be zealous in?

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### ***False teachers***

Some of the things written in Titus about false teachers apply to that specific situation, but principles can also be drawn out of them:

1. The false teachers themselves must be silenced (1:11). The source of their errors were:
  - a. Jewish myths (1:14)
  - b. Genealogies (3:9)
  - c. Strife and disputes about the Law (3:9)
  - d. Foolish controversies (3:9)
2. Those who have been listening to them must be rebuked (1:13).

Just as the false teachers in Titus' church had to be silenced, they must also be silenced in our churches. We need to be on our guard against people, purposefully or accidentally, teaching falsehood.

The Jewish myths, genealogies and disputes about the Law that were being taught probably had to do with circumcision and salvation by works, not by faith. Or in the case of genealogies, salvation by birth, not by faith. These kinds of teachings are common in our own churches today. It is very easy for Christian leaders to get caught up in legalism, but propagating legalism is teaching falsehood, so we must be on our guard against it. It is equally easy for a person to think that because their parents are Christian they also are, so we must guard our flocks against this.

The foolish controversies that were mentioned in Titus 3:9 find their equivalent in our modern discussions of doctrine. There are many discussions of doctrine which are good and appropriate. There are also many which are foolish and pointless because the answer will only be found when Christ returns. The key to differentiating between these two areas is recognizing whether the issue is related to salvation or the deity and incarnation of Jesus Christ. If the controversies are on other subjects, then very likely it is not worth spending your time upon, except to put a stop to it and redirect those involved in a positive direction.

You will notice in point two of the outline above that Paul points out that those who have been listening to the false teachers must be rebuked. This can be a matter of some delicacy and should be handled with care so that you do not lose them from your flock, but encourage them to devote themselves to Biblically-based teaching.

### **4. Titus: Jesus Christ, Our Pattern**

Take time to read Appendix 2 on Titus. As you read answer these questions.

## A Sure Foundation



**Question 38** What valuable lesson can be learned from the example of the old woman in the earthquake?

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## Works for Church Members



**Question 39** What is one reason a Christian should do “good works?”

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### Food for Thought

Mears points out how important the home life and witness are. She writes about the importance of a leader being able to rule his own family. What do you think this means? What would this look like?



**Question 40** What is the test that Mears refers to in the paragraph after “Good Works” where she says, “Try this test on yourself”?

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## IV. Conclusion

*Christians are quite serious in believing that when they gather together for worship and work, God is present and sovereign, really present and absolutely sovereign. God creates and guides, God saves and heals, God corrects and blesses, God calls and judges. With such comprehensive and personal leadership from God, what is the place of human leadership?*

*Quite obviously, it has to be second place. It must not elbow its way to the front, it must not bossily take over. Ego-centered, ego-prominent leadership betrays the Master. The best leadership in spiritual communities formed in the name of Jesus, the Messiah, is inconspicuous, not calling attention to itself but not sacrificing anything in the way of conviction and firmness either.*

*In his letters to two young associates—Timothy in Ephesus and Titus in Crete—we see Paul encouraging and guiding the development of just such leadership. What he had learned so thoroughly himself, he was now passing on, and showing them, in turn, how to develop a similar leadership in local congregations. This is essential reading because ill-directed and badly formed spiritual leadership causes much damage in souls. Paul in both his life and his letters shows us how to do it right.<sup>3</sup>*

Following is a practical assignment to help you put what you are learning into perspective in relation to the Kingdom of God. This assignment should be completed as you have time before Lesson 12 (if you are doing the whole course) as you will need it for the Practical Assignment in that lesson. But even if you are not looking to do this course for credit, this is a study that will encourage your thinking and deepen your understanding of God’s Kingdom. In *New Testament Survey 1*, which covers the Gospels and Acts, we spent time studying what is written there about the Kingdom of God. We are all citizens of this Kingdom. It is a fascinating topic!

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<sup>3</sup> Eugene H. Peterson, *The Message//Remix* (Colorado Springs: NavPress, 2003), 2162.



### **Practical Assignment: Study the Kingdom of God**

Complete two of the Bible studies on the Kingdom of God in Appendix 3. You will need to write the answers in your notebook. It would be excellent if you did these Bible studies with another person such as a family member or someone you are discipling.

If you have enjoyed this lesson please note that it is one in a series of 12 lessons which cover the epistles of the New Testament and the Revelation. These lessons do not necessarily need to be done in order but we would encourage you to pursue your study of the scriptures both for your personal spiritual growth and so that you will be prepared to help others.

Other lessons are:

Lesson 1—James and Galatians—*The Truth about Faith*

Lesson 2—1 and 2 Thessalonians — *Standing Firm in Persecution*

Lesson 3—1 Corinthians — *Problems of the Church*

Lesson 4—2 Corinthians — *Ministry Defended*

Lesson 5— Romans — *Righteousness by Faith*

Lesson 6— Colossians and Ephesians — *Christ and His Church*

Lesson 7— Philemon and Philippians — *Joy and Forgiveness*

Lesson 9—1 Peter, 2 Timothy & 2 Peter — *Encouragement and Warnings*

Lesson 10— Hebrews — *The New Covenant*

Lesson 11—Jude, 1, 2 & 3 John — *Love in Action*

Lesson 12—The Revelation — *Climax of the Ages*

# Self Test

Score: \_\_\_/100

## Matching (6 points each, \_\_\_/60)

a. 1 Timothy

b. Titus

1. \_\_\_ Our people must also learn to engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs, so that they will not be unfruitful.
2. \_\_\_ Key word: “doctrine”
3. \_\_\_ A godly life and sound doctrine are the two key elements to combat false teaching.
4. \_\_\_

Introduction
I. Description of a True Elder
II. The False Teacher
III. Five Classes of Believers Instructed
IV. Instructing Believers in General
Conclusion

5. \_\_\_

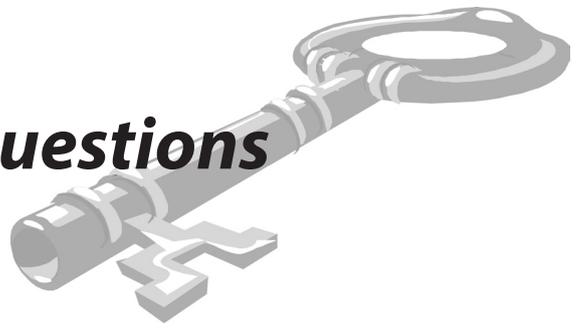
I. Warning against False Teaching
II. Instructions for Administration of the Church
III. How to Deal with False Teaching
IV. Dealing with Different Groups in the Church
V. Final Instructions and Charge to Timothy

6. \_\_\_ Good deeds express God’s grace and influence others for Christ.
7. \_\_\_ Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.
8. \_\_\_ Jesus Christ, Our Teacher
9. \_\_\_ Jesus Christ, Our Pattern
10. \_\_\_ Key word: “Godliness”

## Fill in the Blanks (5 points each, \_\_\_/40)

1. Timothy and Titus were both written by \_\_\_\_\_.
2. First Timothy was most likely written from either \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ shortly after the author had been released from prison in \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Titus teaches us that one of the best ways to stop \_\_\_\_\_ teachers is to have \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Church leadership is an important topic in \_\_\_\_\_.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is a topic that is covered in both 1 Timothy and Titus.

# Answers to Questions



## Question 1

1 Timothy 1:1.

## Question 2

Timothy in Ephesus. 1 Timothy 1:2, 3.

## Question 3

We do not have an “official” position listed for Timothy, but obviously he exerted authority in the church because Paul tells him what to teach. From what Paul says we know that Timothy is still relatively young for leadership, but he also has the direct authority of his mentor who established this church.

Note: There are many who believe Timothy was the pastor of the church, however this is not directly stated in the text.

## Question 4

Paul planted the church at Ephesus on his third missionary journey; he was there for nearly three years. Acts 20:17-21.

## Question 5

The Ephesians most likely struggled with the overt worship of Diana, since Ephesus was the center of her cult. They also had to deal with imperial cults and the magic that was prevalent in the area.

## Question 6

1 Timothy 1:3-5, “As I urged you upon my departure for Macedonia, remain on at Ephesus, in order that you may *instruct certain men not to teach strange doctrines, nor to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies, which give rise to mere speculation rather than furthering the administration of God which is by faith. But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.*”

## Question 7

See 1 Timothy 4:16 in your Bible.

## Question 8

Your answer should be similar to the following: We must “pay close attention” to ourselves and persevere in order to lead a godly life. And to have sound doctrine requires that same close attention and perseverance. But our reward is to know that we are assured of salvation and that others will come to saving faith through our lives and teaching.

## Question 9

Your answer.

**Question 10**

Men (as in humankind) will be selfish, greedy, prideful, disobedient, disrespectful, malicious, wicked, wild, pleasure seeking, lovers of themselves and hypocritical. We must avoid these kind of people.

**Question 11**

Characterized by reverence and love for God and respect for the ethical teachings of scripture; piety put into action.

**Question 12**

Paul says that a godly woman is one who adorns herself with good works.

**Question 13**

According to 1 Timothy 4:7, godliness can be developed through discipline.

**Question 14**

Godliness is profitable for all things, both in this life and in heaven (1 Timothy 4:8).

**Question 15**

Paul's response in 1 Timothy 6:6-7 is, "But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment. For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either."

**Question 16**

Each leader had to be personally disciplined by another leader.

Example: Paul disciplined Timothy. Timothy disciplined church leaders in Ephesus. Those leaders probably disciplined others (see 2 Timothy 2:2).

**Question 17**

It is important to keep my conscience pure because even a slight compromise can have big effects in life.

**Question 18**

Many times our lives are the only Bible that other people read. They may be drawn to Christianity or driven away from it, depending on what they see in our life.

**Question 19**

A pastor who is a new believer might become proud.

**Question 20**

The best way to combat any error is to reiterate the simple Gospel truth.

**Question 21**

It would serve as a warning to others that no one is perfect, but also that no one is excused of their sins just because of position.

## Question 22

Your answer.

## Question 23

Your answer. You have already noticed how many times a form of the word teach is in 1 Timothy. Jesus is *the Word* and therefore the source of all truth. In 1 Timothy 6:3 we read, “If anyone advocates a different doctrine and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ...” We also see how effectively He taught while He was on earth. So we are always learning from Him and He is our example as the Teacher that we need to follow as we seek to teach others.

## Question 24

Older men, older women, younger men, younger women, servants.

## Question 25

God’s slave (the only place he says this rather than a slave of Jesus Christ) and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the purpose of promoting the faith among God’s people, getting out the truth of God.

## Question 26

Titus; Titus 1:4.

## Question 27

Crete (Titus 1:5).

## Question 28

Titus was instructed to help Zenas and Apollos on their way so they would lack nothing.

## Question 29

- a. Paul’s partner and fellow worker
- b. Had the ability to bring comfort and encouragement
- c. Sincere concern for others
- d. A humble man (by deduction) who did not take advantage of others by his position
- e. Went to Jerusalem with Paul and Barnabas
- f. He was an uncircumcised Greek
- g. a spiritual son of Paul, usually indicating that he was saved through Paul’s ministry, as well as being a disciple of his

## Question 30

Titus 3:12.

## Question 31

See Titus 3:14 in your Bible.

## Question 32

It has appeared, bringing salvation to all men.

**Question 33**

Ungodliness and worldly desires.

**Question 34**

Sensibly (soberly), righteously, and godly.

**Question 35**

The glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus.

**Question 36**

He gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

**Question 37**

Good deeds. Notice how this fits in with the theme of this book.

**Question 38**

If we have our eyes on Jesus, we won't have time to worry about our problems.

**Question 39**

Christians should do good works because we have been saved at the great cost of God's only Son.

**Question 40**

When we are being critical of others, examine ourselves to see if this is a fault we haven't had in the past (or maybe even in the present!).

# **Answers to Exercises**



## **Exercise 1**

“Godliness” occurs nine times in 1 Timothy.

“Faith” occurs 18 times.

“Teach”, including “teaching” and “teacher”, occurs 11 times.

## **Exercise 2**

Your answer.

## **Exercise 3**

Your answers.

## **Exercise 4**

You should have at least 12-14 qualifications listed in your chart.

## **Exercise 5**

Your answer.

## **Exercise 6**

“Doctrine” occurs four times in Titus.

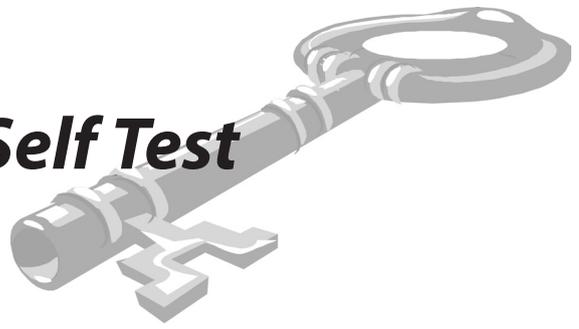
“Deed(s)” occurs eight times.

“Faith” occurs six times.

## **Exercise 7**

Your answer.

# *Answers to Self Test*



## **Matching**

1. b.
2. b.
3. a.
4. b.
5. a.
6. b.
7. a.
8. a.
9. b.
10. a.

## **Fill in the Blanks**

1. Paul
2. Corinth, Macedonia, Rome
3. false, sound doctrine
4. 1 Timothy
5. False teaching/teachers

# Let's Look At 1 Timothy

## *1 Timothy Portrays Jesus Christ, Our Teacher*

Chapter 16 from *A Look at the New Testament* by Henrietta Mears<sup>4</sup>

When Paul came back to Lystra on his second missionary journey, he took Timothy as his companion. What a wonderful thing for so young a man! After long years of training under this mighty man of God, Timothy was left in charge of the important church at Ephesus. This brought the timid young man face to face with serious problems. Think of this inexperienced young fellow being left in that big church to take the place of a man like its founder, Paul! How unworthy he must have felt! How he leaned on the Apostle for advice and direction!

One of the things to remember about this time of the early Church is that there were no church buildings. Groups of Christians met in homes. No churches were built until about 200 years after Paul's day, and not until Constantine put an end to the persecution of Christians. This meant that there would be hundreds of small congregations, each with its own pastor. These pastors were called "elders" (Acts 20:17). In these letters to Timothy they are called "bishops" (3:1). Timothy's work was with these various pastors. Remember, there were no seminaries to prepare leaders. Paul had to train his own men. But in spite of no buildings and no theological seminaries, and also in spite of continued persecution, the Church grew by leaps and bounds.

## Warning Against False Teaching

(Read 1 Timothy 1)

Paul warns Timothy to *hold faith and a good conscience* because these save men from spiritual shipwreck. It is a thrilling sight to see a ship loosened from her moorings and plunging into the ocean. But it is a solemn sight too, considering the many storms she is likely to meet. If this is true of a ship, how much more so of a Christian starting out on the voyage of life.

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<sup>4</sup> Used by permission.

Paul speaks plainly of some who, having put away faith and a good conscience, have caused spiritual shipwreck and are wrecked for two worlds. Let us pay heed to his warnings.

Even some who are brought up in Christian homes, rooted in the faith, may become spiritually proud and intellectually vain, and begin to drift away from their early convictions. They are just drifting hulks. "What do you believe?" They give the agnostic's reply, "I don't know." "What is your relation to Christ?" Again "I don't know." If you don't know where you are, you are in danger.

A ship after a voyage of 3,000 miles, was wrecked at the Bishop's Rock Lighthouse because the captain thought he was two miles off the rocks. But he really didn't know where he was. His mistake sent 342 men to the depths of the sea.

But ship captains are not the only people who lose their reckoning. Every day we find men and women who do not know where they are going. If you are one of these, stop stock-still until you find out where you are. You are running in a fog. The rocks of destruction are close by.

Nearly everyone who goes wrong begins in this way. A nail was driven carelessly in the pilot-house, near the compass, which deflected it a trifle, but the compass was not trustworthy to steer by, and a great ocean liner came near being lost.

A deflection of our conscience may be slight, but in the width of a life it makes a tremendous difference in our goal. Act with decision even in the smallest matters of duty. Keep your conscience true.

Paul's charge to Timothy included more than soundness in doctrine. He wanted soundness in life. Paul realized that a man can believe the Word of God completely, and yet live a life far from its truth. It is sad when one's life and one's belief are poles apart!

In this letter Paul says that the best way of fighting error is with a life that measures up to the standards set down in God's Word. Remember, many of us are the only Bibles others ever read. Christians have to live better than other men in this world if their testimony is to count. We either commend Christ to others by our lives, or we drive them away from Him. How often have we heard, "Well, if that's what Christianity does for a man, I don't want any of it!"

Paul wants Timothy to live a life that will vindicate the truth he preaches. He challenges him to be a good soldier of Jesus Christ. Timothy is charged to "fight the good warfare" (1:18). This presents the thought of a campaign and all the responsibilities of the officer in command.

Paul humbly declares: *This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief* (1:15).

A singer may feel that he has a very good voice but let him compare himself with a Caruso and he feels as if he could never sing again. The reason many people today do not have a sense of sin is because they are not near to Christ. Just to stand in Christ's presence is enough to make us feel condemned. Paul did not *realize* how sinful he was until he was brought face to face with his Lord and Saviour. He felt his miraculous conversion was intended to be an example of how God can save and use the chiefest of sinners. Read 1:2-15.

## Directions For The Church

(Read 1 Timothy 2; 3)

Remember when we pray that God *will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth, for there is one God, and one mediator between God and men.* (2:4,5). Paul makes it clear that when we pray for one we can go straight to God for him. We need no saint or virgin to approach near to God, only the One who gave Himself a ransom for all. Our blessed Lord Himself stands in God's presence pleading for us.

*For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus (1 Tim. 2:5).*

Finally, let all who pray be clean in conduct and pure in character. (2:8-10) Let us lift up “holy hands” when we pray. That means that we should not fill our lives with worthless pleasures or needless things that absorb, but come to the Lord with a heart that is cleansed (1 John 1:9).

When we think of church officers, we immediately think of the “official board.” Paul tells us the kind of people that really ought to be on the church board. If the Church shall fulfill her mission of proclaiming the Gospel and praying for all, then she must be governed properly and know the real reason for her existence. There are two officers described, who shall direct the church, bishops and deacons. Paul outlines the requirement for both groups.

After Paul stated the excellence of the office of bishop or pastor, he states the qualifications of the pastor’s life. We see he must be a man well balanced. Read 1 Timothy 3:1-11.

We find as we look this over that the pastor must be a man of blameless character, having only one living wife, not quarrelsome, not greedy for money. He must be a skillful teacher, and one who makes his own children obey. He must not be a new convert, lest his head be turned with pride. He must have a good reputation in his community. It is important that the church have the right leadership. Good pastors lead a church forward. How we need good and faithful shepherds today!

Paul shows us the need of Christian conduct in church. Church manners are a lost art in most places today. It makes a great deal of difference how we behave, for behavior reveals character. It is not “doing” but “being” that counts. It is what we are that speaks so loudly that men cannot hear what we say. We preach every hour by what we are. The early Christians preached love by their actions. Men said, “Behold how they love one another.”

Paul gives us a beautiful description of the Church and states her purpose. He tells you how you ought to *behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth (3:15)*. The Church upholds all truth in the sight of men. She is the only earthly institution to which Christ committed the preaching of the Gospel. She needs elders and deacons to carry out her program.

## **Directions For The Pastor**

(Read 1 Timothy 4; 5; 6)

Picture the young pastor Timothy awed by his instructor, the fifty-year-old Apostle Paul, as he says, *In the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of the devil; speaking lies in hypocrisy . . . forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good . . . For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shall be a good minister. Lead a godly life. Godliness is profitable (4:8)*. Religion is an appeal to common sense. God says it pays. In one way, Christianity is a business. It asks us to get out our account books, to study the current prices, to consider the possibilities of profit and loss, and decide, *What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?* Paul, after taking account, found what he had counted as “gain” was “loss.”

Does it pay to invest in the Christian life? Does it pay from the standpoint of life right now? God says it does. Christ says, *Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

A noted Puritan once said that God had only one Son, and He made him a minister.

Paul says to the young minister and to those of you who may be ministers, “Don’t think entirely in terms of the physical, how you can please your body.” Everyone is thinking in terms of “having fun,” of “doing things.” The body must be fed, clothed, entertained and pleased! *Bodily exercise is profitable for some things*, says Paul, *but godliness is profitable both for this life and the life to come*. Start living for eternity!

*Be an example in both word and deed, in your love, faith and purity.* Carry conviction and command respect. In order to do this give much attention to your reading and preaching and teaching. The best way to combat any error is by reiterating the simple Gospel truth. The Bible itself will do the job, if only you give it a chance. *Give thyself wholly to them* (the Scriptures). If a man is to succeed in the ministry, he cannot afford to give an ounce of his strength to anything else. It demands the whole man, the whole time. Godliness does not starve real living. You will not become a “sissy” if you are good.

*Take heed to thyself and to thy teaching.* First a minister must be true to his own calling; then he can teach it to others.

The way a minister treats his flock is of vital importance. He must deal wisely and fairly with each one. The widow must be cared for. Elders must be honored and supported, but they must also be reproved, even in public, if they are found guilty, that others may be warned. In other words, sin can never “get by” in the Church, no matter who is guilty of that sin.

### **EXAM Oral, Before God**

Look up 1 Timothy 4:12. Kneel humbly before your Lord. Ask yourself: Am I an example in:

1. Word (conversation)
2. Ways (conduct)
3. Love (consecration)
4. Faith (conviction)
5. Purity (cleanness)

Add up your score. One out of five—AVERAGE; two out of five—FAIR; three out of five—EXCELLENT; four out of five—SUPERIOR; five out of five—UNHEARD OF! Your grade, in any case, is directly due to the work of grace in your heart.

Do you have any difficulty at any of these points? Have any of us made it harder for others to know Christ because of our failings? Let us so yield to Him that others will be led to know Him, and to love Him by our ministry to all who know us.

### **HOW ABOUT THE MINISTRY?**

#### **Facts Show That The Christian Ministry Is the World’s Highest Calling**

- The New Testament is clear in its call to the Christian ministry (1 Tim. 4:6-16).
- History shows that some of the world’s greatest men have been ministers—Augustine, Luther, Calvin, Wesley, Spurgeon.
- Experience proves that the Christian ministry affords finest opportunities for doing good.
- Winning men to Christ and to life in Him is the highest service.

I’ll consider God’s will in this matter.

Check Here

*Fight the good fight of faith* (6:12). Christ makes His appeal to the heroic in a man or woman. The Christian life is not a thing to be entered into lightly. We will not be carried into heaven on flowery beds of ease. We must fight if we would be conquerors. But it is a “good fight.” Our attitude toward our Captain is this: *Speak, Lord, for Thy servant heareth*, and *Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?* This spirit is born of personal devotion to the great Captain of our Salvation. Let us be good soldiers of His cross!

# Let's Look At Titus

## *Titus Portray Jesus Christ: Our Pattern; Our Lord And Master*

Excerpt from Chapter 18 in *A Look at the New Testament* by Henrietta Mears<sup>5</sup>

### **Works For Church Officers**

(Read Titus 1)

Paul presents himself in this scene as the “bond servant” of the Lord Jesus Christ, then as His apostle. Paul loves to call himself a bonds slave of Christ. Another time he says of Christ, *whose I am and whom I serve*. It is terrible to be a slave in the abstract, but to be a slave in the concrete sense—yes, a slave of Jesus Christ, to be bought by Him—that is wonderful. It is a slavery of love.

“In grace,” Spurgeon once said, “you can be under bonds yet not in bondage. I am in bonds of wedlock but I feel no bondage. On the contrary it is joy to be so bound.” Paul was a Roman citizen, born free, ready to assert his freedom on any and every occasion, but he was the slave of Jesus Christ, and proud of that servitude.

Paul was in prison, and Nero sat on the throne, but there would come a time when people would call their dog Nero and their sons they would proudly name Paul!

Paul left Titus in Crete to superintend the work of the church organization there. He wished Titus to establish new centers and get the work started. One or two families would be enough to start a church.

How do you act at home? What kind of a Christian are you there? This is so often the test of your Christianity. It is the home-life that counts. The Christian household is the main evangelizing

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<sup>5</sup> Used by permission

agency everywhere. When the home is Christian, the community is Christian. For this reason, the bishop and pastor are enjoined to set a good example before the people. He must rule his own children well, for he who cannot rule his own household well cannot rule the church of God (1 Tim. 3:5). He must be a man of moral courage and sympathy. He must be a good teacher, and encourage others in his teaching. Remember, practically all the religion you have is what you have at home and in the family circle.

The Creton churches were being upset by outside teachers who, for the sake of money, were working havoc in “whole houses” (1:11). This probably meant whole congregations for the early Church met in private homes. Paul calls these fellows “abominable” and “disobedient” (1:16) and said they must be stopped in their teaching. He demands severity in dealing with them. How much false teaching there is today everywhere! There are more cults and sects which men and women are starting, by which they make themselves rich. Follow the dozens of programs on the radio in the name of religion. It seems easy today, as in Paul’s day, for every false teacher to get a hearing and a following. Why is this? Paul says we know not the truth. Men have “itching ears” and want to hear something new. They do not want a religion that costs them anything but their money.

## A Sure Foundation

During the California earthquake an old saint in San Francisco remained in her room joyously rocking back and forth in her chair, singing while all around her people were running in dread of death. After all was over someone asked her how she could have had such a feeling of joy. “Oh,” replied the old saint, “I was so happy in the thought that my God was mighty enough to rock the world like that, while He held me securely in His hand, I did not have time to be frightened.”

# Works For Church Members

(Read Titus 2; 3)

Paul believed that doctrine must be expressed in life, and so he had a word to Titus about the aged (2:2,3), the youth (2:4-6) and the slaves (2:9,10). Let us know the demands of the school of grace:

- Leave the old life.
- Live the new life.
- Look for that blessed hope and glorious appearing of Christ (2:11-13).

How essential that this be our foundation! Then can we *adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things* (2:10). To think that we in any way can adorn the wonderful Gospel by our lives! As we put a frame on a beautiful picture, to enhance its beauty and make it more conspicuous, so we must adorn and make more beautiful the Gospel of Christ. A king in his royal robes is more easily recognized as such, than one in ordinary clothing. How we can either make or mar the Gospel! What is the “Gospel according to you”? In all things show thyself a pattern of good works (2:7). The test of fellowship is not warmth of devotion, but holiness of life. One cannot live on strong “feelings.” Some mistake religious feeling for holiness and good thoughts for good conduct. All make this error. There is use and abuse in religious emotion.

Be so faithful in your attitudes and obligations of life that critics of your religion will be silenced. (2:8) Make others say, “If this is what Christ can do for you, there must be something to your religion.”

Not that we are saved by good works, but we are saved unto good works. Paul says we are saved by His mercy (3:5) and justified by His grace (3:7). But because we have been saved at such a cost, we should show it by “good works.”

“God our Saviour” did not save us as a result of our good works, but through His kindness and according to His mercy. He cleansed us by His blood and gave us a new life by His Holy Spirit.

Paul urges citizens of the heavenly kingdom to be good citizens of the country under whose flag they live. Every Christian should be submissive to rulers and authority (3:1, 2; Rom. 13:1-7; I Pet. 2:13-17). Again Paul tells us “to be ready to every good work” (3:1).

### **Good Works**

“A pattern of good works” .....	2:7
“Zealous of good works” .....	2:14
“Ready to every good work”.....	3:1
“Careful to maintain good works” .....	3:8
“Maintain good works for necessary uses” .....	3:14

Don’t say anything of a person if you can’t say something good, is a wonderful admonition to follow. Paul said it long ago. *Speak evil of no man*. Don’t be quarrelsome. Show a gentle spirit in your dealing with others. It is well for us to remember that *we ourselves also were sometimes foolish*. Yes, we had all the faults we hate in others. It is well to remember that the things we criticize in others are very apt to be our own weaknesses. We like to call attention to these faults in others to take eyes off of ourselves. Try this test on yourself.

Avoid controversies and foolish discussions. They are always useless and futile. So often an argument only strengthens a person in what he believed before. Do all you can to correct a person, but if he persists in causing divisions among you, after warning him once or twice, have nothing more to say to him. Reject him (3:10). Devote your time in doing good. Meet the needs of men. Help others to live useful lives.

# Kingdom Bible Studies<sup>6</sup>

## APPENDIX 3

You will notice that there are two studies from the Old Testament. These two studies help to complete our picture of the Kingdom of God and also help us to better understand some of the New Testament passages. These Bible studies are very short and you may wish to do a more in-depth study on each passage in the future.

Please note that we have not included an answer key for these studies as the questions are merely intended to help you interact with the passage and think of it in relation to God's Kingdom. If you get stuck on a question feel free to invite other people to discuss it and share their opinions with you.

As you start each study, read through the passage asking God for understanding and insight into His Kingdom.

### 1. The Character of the King—Psalm 145

Purpose: To explore how God's character and nature are reflected in His Kingdom.

- a. What characteristics or qualities of God as King do you see in verses 1-7? List them with the verse in which you find them.
- b. What do you learn about the character of the King and of His Kingdom in verses 8-13?
- c. Verses 14-20 tell of God's response to different groups of people. List these groups and how God responds. What does this tell you about God's character?
- d. Having surveyed this passage write down your observations about God as King. What kind of a king is He? Over whom does He rule? What is His agenda as king (verses 14-20)?
- e. How does David respond to this understanding of God as King (verse 21)? How should we respond? What does that look like in daily life?
- f. Identify a personal situation or world event that feels out of control. Then write down some characteristics of God that you want to keep in mind in relation to this situation. Use these to praise God about this situation as often as you think about it.

### 2. The Kingdom's Coming—Mark 1:14-45

Purpose: To discover the many areas over which Jesus' Kingdom exercises authority.

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<sup>6</sup> This material is loosely based on Greg Jao's *The Kingdom of God: 10 studies for individuals or groups* (Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press), 2003.

- a. Over what does Jesus demonstrate the authority of the Kingdom of God in verses 16-20; 21-22; 23-28; and 29-31?
- b. What kingdom priorities do verses 35-39 reveal?
- c. Despite His obvious authority what were Jesus' instructions in verses 25 and 44? What kingdom priority does this reveal?
- d. Jesus commanded the leper to submit to the laws of the Jews and show himself to a priest upon his healing. From this and other instances we can see that it was not Jesus' intent to overthrow the existing government, but rather to live in submission to it. How does this change or affect your thinking about what the Kingdom of God is?
- e. Knowing that as the disciples of Christ and citizens of His Kingdom we have full access to His authority, how should we live in relation to our local authorities?
- f. What is one way that you can do that this week?

### **3. An Offer You Can't Ignore—Matthew 13:1-45**

Purpose: To explore the different responses to the Kingdom message of Jesus.

- a. List the different responses to the Kingdom that are presented in this passage.
- b. What characteristics do those have who embrace the Kingdom in these parables?
- c. How are people who do not accept the Kingdom described?
- d. According to these parables, what responsibilities do we have in expansion of the Kingdom?
- e. How do you plan to share the "Offer They Can't Ignore" with someone this week?

### **4. Mission Statement for a Kingdom—Matthew 20:1-34**

Purpose: To explore the Kingdom values taught and demonstrated by Jesus.

- a. What did the workers value in verses 1:16?
- b. What did the landlord value?
- c. What did John and James' mother value?
- d. Jesus used this situation to reveal more Kingdom values. What are they?
- e. How does Jesus demonstrate these values in verses 17-19 and 29-34?
- f. Based on this passage write a one-sentence mission statement for the Kingdom of God.
- g. Write down one practical way that you can demonstrate this mission statement through your life and actions this week.

### **5. Kingdom in Words and Deeds—Acts 8:4-40**

Purpose: To investigate the role of the Holy Spirit in proclaiming and uniting the Kingdom of God.

- a. To whom did Philip go to proclaim the gospel in verses 4-25? What was unusual about this?
- b. What are some of the signs that Philip performed as he proclaimed the Kingdom?
- c. Who was baptized as a result of this ministry in Samaria?
- d. What was the response of the disciples in Jerusalem to what happened in Samaria?
- e. After Philip left Samaria who did he meet and proclaim the gospel to in verses 26-40?

- f. What variety of people entered into the Kingdom in this passage?
- g. Notice how the Holy Spirit broke through cultural, gender and racial barriers to bring all these people into the Kingdom of God. What are some cultural, racial or other barriers that are evident in your area?
- h. List at least three people who are different from you in some way and write down beside each name a way that you can show the love of God and share the Kingdom of God with that person specifically.

## 6. Kingdoms in Conflict—Revelation 19

Purpose: To discover how Jesus' Kingdom overcomes all rival kingdoms.

- a. List several attributes of God from verses 1-6.
- b. Notice that all of them are related to the judgments of God and that heaven worships God for this. What evils are in your life or affect your life that God will triumph over? How does this affect your attitude to these evils?
- c. In verses 11-21 who are the two armies? What do they represent?
- d. Jesus completely defeats His enemies, bringing complete and absolute judgment to them. How can this knowledge help you in your daily life and ministry?
- e. Why should this knowledge make you worship God?
- f. Since we know that Jesus will be victorious in the end, how can you live that victory now? Write down one or two specific areas of your life which you can apply this victory to and then praise God for it.

## 7. Waiting for Kingdom Come—Matthew 25:1-30

Purpose: To consider the ways Jesus expects us to be faithful until the Kingdom comes fully.

- a. What emotions accompany the Lord's return in the first two parables (verses 1-30)?
- b. What attitudes and characteristics did the wise virgins have in verses 1-13?
- c. What attitudes and characteristics did the foolish virgins have in verses 1-13?
- d. The bridegroom shut out the unprepared virgins. What does this reveal about the nature of the Kingdom?
- e. In the second parable the master gives huge sums of money to his servants to take care of while he is gone. What does this tell us about the master's attitude toward and expectations of his servants?
- f. Compare the unfaithful servant in verses 24-30 with the virgins in the first parable. What was expected of both of these groups? How did they fail? What was the consequence?
- g. What do these two parables show us about what King expects of His citizens?
- h. How have you demonstrated foolishness or wisdom as you await the return of the King?
- i. What three things can you do today to begin to be prepared for the coming of the Kingdom?
- j. Read Matthew 25:31-46 to discover some more ways to be prepared for the coming of the King.

## 8. Living in Light of the Kingdom—2 Timothy 3:10-4:8

Purpose: To understand life and ministry in light of Christ's Kingdom and return.

- a. How does Paul contrast kingdom citizens with citizens of the world in 3:12-13?
- b. What attitudes does he instruct Timothy to have in light of the coming Kingdom (4:1-5)?
- c. How do these attitudes differ from that of those who are outside the Kingdom?
- d. What kind of treatment can citizens of God's Kingdom expect from citizens of the world?
- e. As Kingdom citizens what are we to be equipped for?
- f. When will we be rewarded for our faithful service?
- g. What good works can you be involved in to keep yourself prepared for the coming of the King? List at least five and choose three to act upon this week.

Additional passages that you may be interested in creating your own studies on are:

**9. King of All—Colossians 1:1-20**

Purpose: To understand that Jesus' Kingdom extends over the cosmos because of who he is and what he has accomplished.

**10. Who Sits on the Throne?—Daniel 4**

Purpose: To learn how God reigns over the nations.

