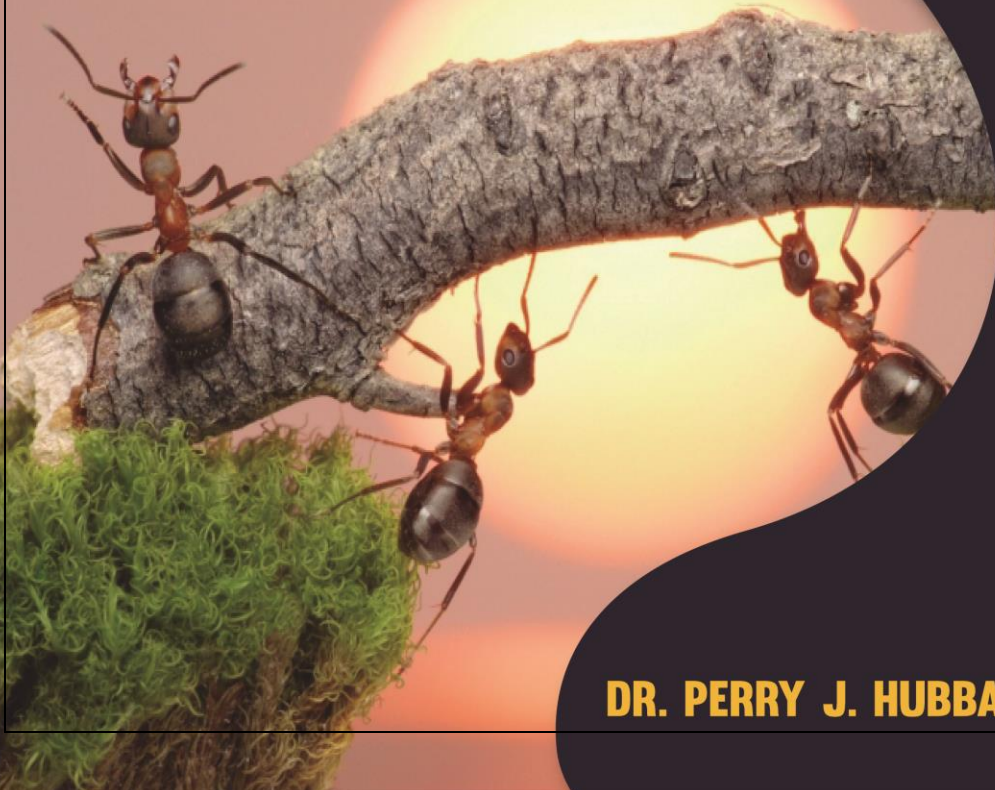




# FOUNDATIONS OF LEADERSHIP



**DR. PERRY J. HUBBARD**

# **Foundations of Leadership**

**A manual for developing effective leaders**

**Based on 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus**

**By Dr. Perry J. Hubbard**

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Introduction – This material is set up in four parts. The first part are the scriptures used to develop the material from the letters of Paul. The second part involves study questions related to the topic to help introduce the topic. The third part is a short commentary related to the topic. The final is an outline study of key aspects of the material as presented by Paul. The study also contains short thoughts and reflections on different aspects of the subject of that lesson.

This material is designed to help guide a person in thinking through what it means to be a leader and provide a guide to help them teach others about the role of a leader in the church.

# Lesson One — Knowing where the danger lays — False Truth

## Σ Scripture

1 Tim 1:3-11

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

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

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## Preliminary Study – Questions

Why did Paul want Timothy to stay in Ephesus? 1 Timothy 1:3-4

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What is the source of love? 1 Timothy 1:5

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How does this description of love affect your knowledge of the truth?

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Who is the law made for? Why is this true? Vs 9

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Why is the law not given for the righteousness? Vs 11

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What happens when people turn away from love? Vs 6-7

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What are some of the sources of false teaching? 1 Timothy 4:1-2

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What does it mean to have only a form of godliness? 2 Timothy 3:5

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What kind of minds do those who oppose the truth have? 2 Timothy 3:9

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## **Ψ COMMENTARY**

Paul is writing to the young man named Timothy who is around the age of 32. In that time a man between the ages of 18-46 was considered to be a young man. Timothy has been Paul's assistant since during his second missionary journey. When he met Timothy and saw that God had placed a special call on him he took him as his assistant. Timothy began to travel with and assist Paul in his ministry. Timothy only left Paul when Paul sent him on a special assignment as is evident from the two letters to Timothy. Paul reminds Timothy that God has called him to the work he has been given and that he should be diligent in carrying out the tasks assigned to him.

It is believed that Paul is writing this letter at the end of his first imprisonment in Roman. He is feeling confident that he will be released and so will be able to see Timothy soon. In the meant time Paul provides the young leader with key instruction to help him successfully carry out the current assignment he has in the city of Ephesus. The first part of this is to deal with false teachers and their false teaching. Paul had warned the people that this would occur when he left Ephesus (Acts 20:29-30). Paul is reminding Timothy of this. In doing so he is warning Timothy to beware of such teaching and its effects in his life and of his responsibility to deal with it in within the church.

Paul has spent much of his career dealing with those who oppose the truth. The main group being the Judaizers, who sought to impose the Mosaic law on all those who had become Christians. In these letters he lists for us the different forms that falsehood may seek to enter into a leader's life and so affect them and the church they are responsible for.

It is interesting to note that the first area of concern that Paul addresses in the life of a leader is the need to identify, prepare for and deal with false truth. Yet it does make a great deal of sense. If we do not clearly know the truth then how will we know if the teaching we receive is true or false. If we are not willing to be prepared and do the work and study needed then everything that follows will be affected by the errors that have been allowed to exist in our knowledge and teaching. It is a good point to begin the process of becoming leaders that are acceptable to God and who have the ability to carry out the work they have been called to by God.

## **Ω Study**

### **Why are you here? (Why are you studying this material?)**

Who and what is a leader?

- One who tells
- One who shows
- One who leads
- One who helps

Can you take people where you have not been? Why

Can you show them where to go if you don't know how to get there? Why

Can you tell them what you don't know? Why

### **Why does false truth exist?**

False Truth –


- Attempts at shortcuts
- Attempts at creating false impression of knowledge
- Attempts to create false confidence in leader

Reasons for these actions


- Love of self
- Love of power
- Love of pleasure
- Love of money
- Lack of respect for
  - Parents
  - Leaders
  - Others

Results of these actions

- Avoiding truth
- Altering truth
- Opposing truth

- 
- ❖ REQUIREMENT OF FALSE TRUTH –
  - ❖ FOR FALSE TRUTH TO FUNCTION IT REQUIRES ELABORATE SYSTEMS OF INTERPRETATION – THIS INVOLVES A GREAT DEAL OF WORK AND MEMORY TO CREATE THE IMPRESSION OF KNOWLEDGE.

**WHY IS THIS TRUE?**

- 
- ❖ FALSE TEACHING –
  - ❖ IT IS THE EVIDENCE OF A LEADER’S FAILURE TO DO THE WORK OF PREPARATION AND A FAILURE TO TRULY LEAD

## **Types of false teaching**

- False Doctrine
- Controversy
- Arguments
- Quarrels
- Meaningless talk
- Genealogy
- Myths/Tradition
- Deception

## **Four areas impacted by false teaching**

### ➤ ***Primary Level***

At this level we are impacting our lives and our ability to comprehend the truth and apply it to our own lives.

- Love of self
- Love of Money
- Love of Pleasure
- Lack of Control
- Boastful
- Conceited
- Rash

❖ **Result of this level of false truth – We are unable to learn or acknowledge the truth.**

### ➤ ***Secondary level***

At this level false teaching begins to affect the people around us.

- Perversion
- Lying
- Perjury
- Disobedience
- Ungrateful

- Unforgiving
- Treacherous
- Brutal

❖ **Result of this level of false truth – We become unable to discern the truth from the lie**

### ➤ *Tertiary Level*

At this level we began to affect the structures that govern our relations with others. We began to impact the law and it is altered.

- Lawbreaking
- Rebellion

❖ **Result of this level of false truth – We begin to oppose the truth and seek to convince others to join us in our rebellion. At this level we still are aware that we are doing is wrong.**

### ➤ *Fourth level*

At this level we begin to alter the reality of who God is

- Unrighteous
- Irreligious
- Unholy

❖ **Results of this level of false truth – We oppose God’s truth and create our own system of truth. At this level we begin to convince ourselves that we are right and others should be listening to us.**

### **Results of this process of false teaching**

- Pointless teaching
- Repetitions preaching
- Loss of direction and so people leave
- Formation of cultic structures

### **Causes of this problem-**

Consider why each of these is a possible door to false teaching

- Lack of relation
  - God
  - Key mentor
  - Others
- Lack of Knowledge
  - Of Self
  - Of God
  - Of Bible
  - Of Church
- Lack of Humility

### **Steps to dealing with and avoiding the trap of the false**

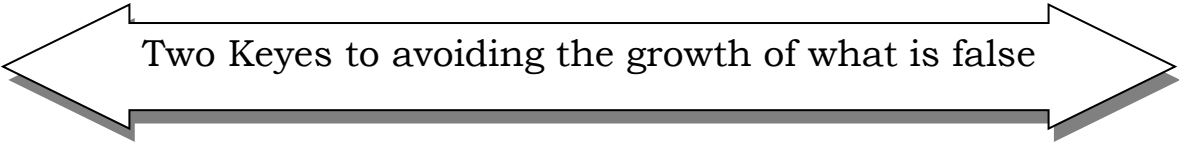
- Knowing God
  - Purpose for man
  - Relation with man
- Develop relation to a Mentor (i.e. Paul)
  - Be disciple
  - Be mentored
  - Be corrected
- Personal Choices(i.e. Timothy)
  - Seek to be taught
  - Listen to what you receive
  - Obey the directions given
  - Accept your responsibility

Paul's directions to Timothy – How to keep the focus on the truth

- Command
- Promote
- Emphasize
- Organize

The Three loves that will keep you on track

- Love of truth
- Love of Purity
- Love of God



Two Keyes to avoiding the growth of what is false

**⇔ We must seek the approval of God in our lives**

**⇔ Learn to teach the truth without shame**

## Lesson Two — The need for Grace — Giving and Receiving

### **Σ Scripture**

1 Tim 1:12-20

12 I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me faithful, appointing me to his service. 13 Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. 14 The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 15 Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners — of whom I am the worst. 16 But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. 17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. 18 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, 19 holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith. 20 Among them are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme.

2 Tim 1:3-18

I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. 4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. 5 I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now



lives in you also. 6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. 8 So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God, 9 who has saved us and called us to a holy life — not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, 10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. 11 And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. 12 That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day. 13 What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. 14 Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you — guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us. 15 You know that everyone in the province of Asia has deserted me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes. 16 May the Lord show mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains. 17 On the contrary, when he was in Rome, he searched hard for me until he found me. 18 May the Lord grant that he will find mercy from the Lord on that day! You know very well in how many ways he helped.

#### Titus 3:3-8

At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. 4 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. 8 This is a trustworthy

saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.



## Preliminary Study – Questions

En In your own words explain how you think grace works in your life.  
When grace is working in your life what is changed? 1 Timothy 1:14

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How does this change in your life affect others? Verse 16

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Do you consider yourself to be the worst of sinners? Why? Verse 16

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Do you deserve to be permitted to serve God? Why? Verse 15

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What is a spirit of timidity? 2 Timothy 1:7

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How does one suffer for the gospel? Verses 8, 12

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How does grace make this possible?

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What have you or should you entrust to God? Verse 12

Why is grace not ashamed of the activity of God? Verse 16

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How does grace affect your view of-  
Those who do not know Christ? Titus 3:3

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Christians who are struggling with sin? Titus 3:5

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The purpose of punishment?

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The need for restoration?

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What blessings has the grace of God brought into your life? Titus 3:7

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## **Ψ COMMENTARY**

Grace – unmerited divine assistance given man for his regeneration or sanctification. This creates a disposition to an act of kindness or clemency.

Mercy – compassion or forbearance shown especially to an offender or to one subject to one’s power as shown by God’s response to a sinner who repents and seeks forgiveness.

Grace implies a benign attitude towards those deserving punishment. Grace

Mercy implies a compassion that seeks an option to punishment even when justice demands it.

Grace is the context in which mercy is able to operate. Without the existence of an attitude of grace there would be no possibility of mercy. God’s grace, his willingness to make possible another option other than judgment and punishment, makes possible his mercy, his action to provide for the penalty of our sin and release us from the punishment that is deserved. God’s grace makes possible the action of mercy as revealed in Jesus death on the cross for us.

Without grace mercy cannot exist and without mercy grace has no purpose. Grace is not concerned with the quantity of our sin or nature of our sin. The focus of grace is on the reality of our sin and the need that exists to deal with the impact of our sin. Mercy is God's response to this situation. In mercy he has considered what is needed and provided the means for our sin to be dealt with and so free us from the punishment which is required by the law. Grace makes forgiveness possible; mercy is the application of forgiveness to our lives.

Grace is God's unmerited favor towards us. We do not deserve God's concern nor can we act in such a way as to cause him to take an interest in our condition. Grace is the basis for God's interest and hence his action on our behalf. Mercy is the action that results because of the existence of grace. Mercy determined the need for a sacrifice. Mercy caused Jesus to come and offer himself. Mercy restores us to the state that God intended for us. Mercy allows God to dwell with us and for us to share in the blessings God has for us.

## **Ω Study**

### **Effect of Grace in our lives**

- Gives Strength
  - Creates Faithfulness
  - Provides ability to serve
  - Supports the presence of
    - Faith
    - Love

### **Grace looks forward and backward**

- Grace is not blind – Knows our prior condition – Worst of sinners
  - Blasphemers
  - Persecutor

- Violent
- Grace - Knows what must be done to develop an effective leader
  - Reveal the nature of our sin
  - Reveal reason for Christ's coming
  - Reveal the unlimited patience of God
  - Create a level of humility in us
  - Create an understanding of our dependence
  - Create in us an example for others
- Grace brings revelation to our lives:
  - We were ignorant
  - We were unbelieving
  - We were of no value
  - We have received love
  - We have received grace
  - We have received faith

❖ *Grace helps us to see where we were and where we could have ended up, except for God*

### **Why is this true?**

- Grace is about living in this moment
  - Knows our limits
  - Knows our desires
  - Knows our capability

Grace makes it possible for us to be alive and aware of what is happening around us and the role we have in relation to God and the world

### **Grace makes it possible to**

- Fight the good fight

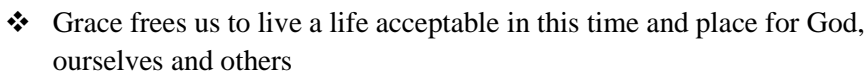
- Hold on to our faith
- Hold on to a good conscience

### **When grace is rejected or twisted**

- Fight the wrong fight
- Build only a faith in ourselves
- Lose our conscience about what is right
- Lose our perspective on the needs of others

### **Impact of such rejection is severe –**

- Shipwreck our faith
- Placed in the sphere of Satan’s influence
- Harm the faith of others



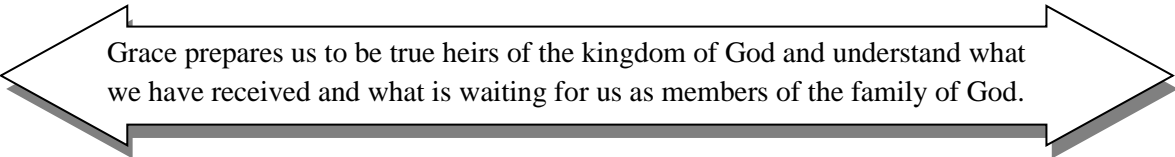
❖ Grace frees us to live a life acceptable in this time and place for God, ourselves and others

### **Why is this true?**

### **Grace helps us see into the future hope that is ours and can be shared with others.**

This window on tomorrow is possible as we maintain contact with God

- Fix your eyes on the one who saved you
- Fix your eyes on the one who dwells in you
- Fix your eyes on the one who leads you



Grace prepares us to be true heirs of the kingdom of God and understand what we have received and what is waiting for us as members of the family of God.



## **Grace will continue to active in us as we allow God to use us.**

Grace will:

- Unite in prayer
- Support our faith
- Evaluate our call
- Encourage the growth of grace
- Instill the joy of God
- Confirm our appointment
- Maintain our focus
- Provide an example
- Open the doors of this blessing to others.
- Grace will continue to be active as we
- Know our history
- Reminded of source of our salvation
- Realize the impact of Grace
- Have an honest view of present
- 

## **Grace will be active through you to others when you remember.**

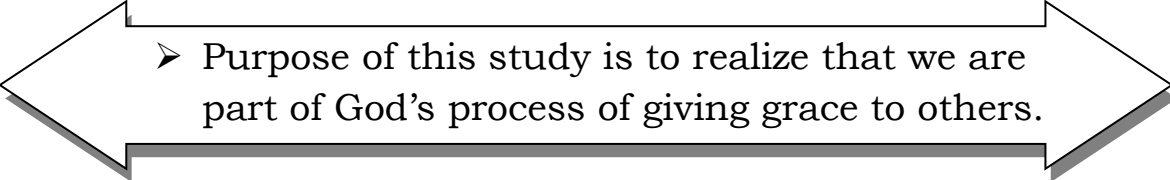
## **Grace does not hide your History but reminds you of what God has done in your life**

- You were
  - Foolish like they are
  - Disobedient like they are
  - Deceptive like they are
  - Enslaved by passions and pleasures like they are
- Your salvation is through Jesus
  - evidence of God's kindness

- Source of salvation
- Gift of God's mercy
- Reveals the impact of grace in you
  - Rebirth
  - Renewal
  - Restoration

### **Present needs**

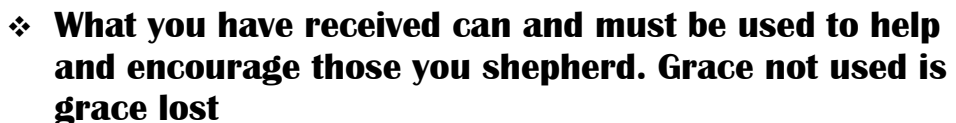
- Stress these truths
  - For you
  - For them
- Devote self to
  - Doing good
  - Doing what is excellent
- Doing what is profitable



➤ Purpose of this study is to realize that we are part of God's process of giving grace to others.

### **❖ The grace you received should**

- MAKE YOU AWARE OF THE NEED
- GIVE YOU INSIGHT INTO
- HELP YOU SHARE
- OPEN YOUR HEART FOR
- MAKE POSSIBLE APPLICATION OF GRACE



**❖ What you have received can and must be used to help and encourage those you shepherd. Grace not used is grace lost**

# **Lesson Three – Directing the worship of the church**

## **Σ Scripture**

1 Tim 2:1-15

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone— 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 3 This is good, and pleases God our Savior, 4 who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all men — the testimony given in its proper time. 7 And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle — I am telling the truth, I am not lying — and a teacher of the true faith to the Gentiles. 8 I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing. 9 I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, 10 but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God. 11 A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. 12 I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent. 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner. 15 But women will be saved through childbearing — if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.

2 Tim 4:1-5

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: 2 Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage — with great patience and careful instruction. 3 For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. 5 But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.



## Preliminary Study – Questions

In this lesson we will look at several other scriptures that focus on the issue of leadership and worship.

Read 1 Corinthians 11:1-15

In Paul's day if a woman to prayed or spoke publicly without her head covered, it represented an attitude of pride and rebellion. If a man to spoke with his head covered was considered a form of false humility and disrespect to God's authority.

Are there practices in the church today that have a similar effect?

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What should you as a leader do about this?

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Read 1 Corinthians 14:26, 40

What should be the purpose be of any activity that is part of worship?

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Are there activities in the church that do not strengthen others?

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Is it possible to sing or teach in a way that does not strengthen? Explain

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How does one be sure that everything is done in a fitting and orderly manner?

Read Ephesians 5:19-21

What should be the purpose of every aspect of worship?

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What should be the attitude of each person towards others in worship? Why?

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Read Colossians 3:15-17

How can we admonish each other with gratitude in our hearts? (Is this one of the functions of grace?)

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Why are correction and instruction appropriate in our times of worship before God?

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# Ψ COMMENTARY

Worship is the ritual and or ceremony by which we express our reverence and devotion to God. It reveals the worthiness of the one receiving this devotion. It also reveals our dependence and gratitude to God for all that he has done for us.

Worship in its most basic form involves acts of giving as a means of expressing our gratitude to God and our desire that he continue to care for us. This is seen in the Old Testament by the construction of altars and the sacrifices offered on them. Sacrifice was also used as a means of obtaining forgiveness for a person's failure to obey God, and in this manner restore the relationship between an individual and God. This key aspect of worship was incorporated into the worship that was organized around in relation to the tabernacle and later the temple. In the early church the place and importance of giving is discussed in 1 Corinthians 8-9.

Worship also includes acts of adoration and thanksgiving. While David was not the first to write songs and psalms, it was David that excelled in this aspect of worship. David assigned key people to the development and supervision of psalms and music and assigned people as musicians and singers to serve in the temple and its times of worship.

Worship also includes the reading of the words of God. In its earliest forms it involved the remembering and reciting of God's promises that had been given verbally. In Moses' time this was made an integral part of the main festivals. During many of these, the written law was to be read and the people were to listen to God's word. By Jesus time', the reading of the law and prophets was a key part of the worship that occurred in the synagogues and each Sabbath a portion was to be read as part of the service of worship.

Worship's key function is one of communication. Those participating in worship communicate to God their thanks, adoration and requests, and God communicates (through the acts of worship) his presence, (through the reading of his word) his purposes for those who worship him, and (through preaching) how his word is to be applied to the lives of those who seek to worship.

The actual style of worship has varied from age to age and place to place. From the private worship of the family of Abraham to the national worship of the people of Israel. From simple actions and words to the impressive offerings and rituals of Solomon and other kings. From simple songs without instruments to the choirs and musicians of the temple in David's time. This flexibility of style has continued throughout the history of the church.

During times of persecutions worship is done quietly, solemnly and in secret. During times of freedom and safety, worship is vocal and visible to all. Worship can be solemn and meditative or it can be exuberant and expressive.

Styles of music vary greatly, from the antiphonal singing of West Africa to the choral productions of North America. In some places there are no instruments or only a drum and others have entire orchestras to accompany the music of worship. Each country and culture has its style of music and each can be used in worshipping God.

Clothing varies from the simple attire of a remote tribe in the Amazon to the grand vestments of the high church in England. Buildings and structures have the same variety from a grass roof church to a stone cathedral. In each of these the style of worship can vary from very solemn to very exuberant.

Jesus gives only a few warnings about worship. Do not give in order to impress others (Mt 6:1-4). When we pray we should not babble like the pagans (Mt 6:7). Our prayer should be simple and to the point. Paul adds that the way we dress for worship should be modest or appropriate.



Paul uses events and attitudes surrounding the communion service to warn us that we need to be very clear about why we are participating in worship. If it is to satisfy our desires and purposes then it will yield only death (1 Co 11:28-34). We are to focus on God.

There is a great deal of freedom in how you worship. But the purpose of worship is, focusing our hearts on God. The responsibility of the leader is to direct the people in this.

## **Ω Study**

### **Worship – being in the presence of**

1. Creator
2. Judge
3. Savior
4. Father

### **Worship involves several actions on our part**

- The First action is toward God
  - Be in prayer
    - Requests
      - Daily needs
      - Protection
      - Forgiveness
    - Prayers – psalms
      - Recognition of
      - Interaction with
    - Intercession – others

- Ministry to
    - Life of
  - Thanksgiving
    - Remembering where we
    - Reflecting on what we
- Goals of Prayer
  - Develop lives of peace – relation to others
  - Develop lives of godliness – relation to self
  - Develop lives of holiness- relation to God

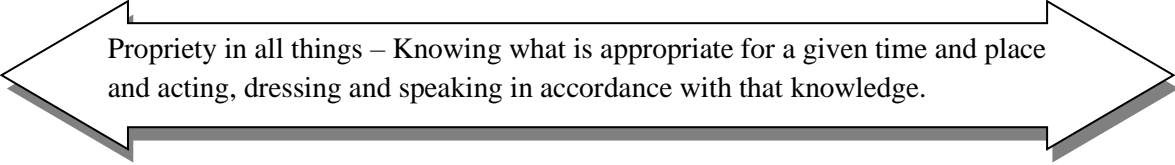
## ➤ Second action is towards others – Discovering

- How to make God’s purpose our purpose
  - All to be saved
  - All to know the truth
  - All to be in relation with God
- How to reveal the truth
  - One God
  - One mediator
  - One ransom

## **Role of the leader**

- Attitude
  - Lift up holy hands
  - Set aside dispute/anger
  - Modest/Decent/appropriate
  - Supporting good deeds
  - Clarity of God’s leadership’
- Set example
  - Best attire-good deeds
  - Best Guide-servant hood
  - Best attitude-humility
  - Best environment-undistracted
- Goal – provide resources to continue in

- Faith
- Love
- Holiness



Propriety in all things – Knowing what is appropriate for a given time and place and acting, dressing and speaking in accordance with that knowledge.

### **Activities of the leader**

#### ➤ Provide a clear warning

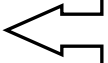
- God is present
  - Judging living and dead
  - Living among us
  - Applying laws of the kingdom among us
  -

#### ➤ Preach the Word

- Preach the word
  - In season – knowledge and preparation guided by a plan
  - Out of season – knowledge and preparation for the unexpected
- Correction
- Rebuke
- Encouragement

#### ➤ Continues in Patience

- Perseverance
- View of Goal
- Careful instruction
- Knowledge of needs

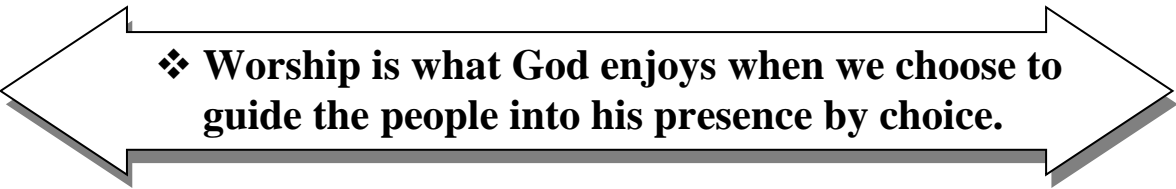


- ❖ If a leader is not careful to guide the people in true worship and is careless then a time may come when the people will not tolerate sound doctrine. They will be used to hearing only what they desire to hear because the pastor had given them nothing else for that is all he has taught them to hear.

### **Why is this true?**

- Therefore – in all situations
  - Keep your head
  - Endure the hardships
  - Do the work
  - Discharge the duties of ministry
  
- Worship is not about what the people want but what
  - God could require of the people but chooses not to
  - God should expect of the people but chooses not to
  - God would desire of the people but chooses not to

**Worship is a clear proclamation of the truth that is God.**



**❖ Worship is what God enjoys when we choose to guide the people into his presence by choice.**

## Lesson Four — Living with a standard

### Σ Scripture

1 Tim 3:1-16

Here is a trustworthy saying: If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task. 2 **Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled,** respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3 not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. 4 He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. 5 (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) 6 He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. 7 He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap. 8 Deacons, likewise, are to be men worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. 9 They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. 10 They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons. 11 In the same way, their wives are to be women worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything. 12 A deacon must be the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well. 13 Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus. 14 Although I hope to come to you soon, I am writing you these instructions so that, 15 if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

Titus 1:5-9

The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you. 6 An elder must be blameless, the husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. 7 Since an overseer is entrusted with God's work, he must be blameless — not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. 8 Rather he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. 9 He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.



## Preliminary Study – Questions

Read the following scriptures that are about leadership and answer the questions.

James 3:1-2 Why do you think James is warning people about desiring to be a teacher or leader?

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Why will leaders be judged more strictly?

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Are teachers expected to be perfect and never make mistakes?

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Matthew 20:25-28; Luke 22:27 What is the key role of a leader?

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John 15:16; Acts 6:1-7 How do we know whom God has selected to be a leader?

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What are the results of selecting the right people to be leaders?

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2 Corinthians 3:4-6 How can one become an effective leader?

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Ephesians 3:4-6 What was Paul's attitude toward being selected as a leader?

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John 21:15-17 What does it mean to feed the sheep of God?

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Why is love so important to this task?

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## **Ψ COMMENTARY**

The key term used to describe a leader in scripture is the term shepherd which is often translated to the word pastor. This term is used to explain the type of life required of one who is to care for others and the nature of the responsibilities involved. There are two key passages in scripture that help us understand the life and responsibilities that are part of being a leader in God's kingdom.

The first of these is Psalms 23, which is usually called the shepherd's psalm. The role of a shepherd in caring for the sheep is clearly described. A pastor is responsible to feed and care for those under his care. He is responsible for the safety and to provide a place of calm and security where they can find rest. When there is danger the pastor provides the strength needed to pass through the dangers and bring the people safely to the destination. The pastor makes it possible for those under his care to receive the blessings that are available to them.

The description is of the perfect shepherd who cares and provides perfectly for his sheep. This is a perfect description of what the sheep should expect to receive from those who fulfill completely their responsibilities as shepherds.

Jesus adds to this description of the shepherd in John 10:1-18. He discusses the relationship between the sheep and the shepherd and the character of the true shepherd.

The sheep recognize the shepherd. This recognition is based not fear but on an understanding of the reliability of the shepherd to provide what the sheep need. It is also based on a clear knowledge of the person through an ongoing relationship that has been developed by choice. The shepherd has chosen to care for the sheep. As a result of this relationship and the history of care and concern the sheep have come to trust the shepherd. They know he cares for them and that they are safe when he is around and so they choose to follow him.

This is a very good description of a good leader. He develops a relationship with those he has been assigned to care for. He provides for them and they see that what he provides is beneficial and so trust is developed. As a result the people will listen to and follow the instructions of the leader because of the relationship and evidence of its benefit to them.

The shepherd is described as one who knows his sheep. This is not just knowing the number of the sheep or identifying one from another. It is about knowing their condition and their needs so that he can provide the right food and water in the right amounts and at the right time. He knows when they need protection, food and treatment for injuries and illness. He knows what is dangerous and will bring harm to each. He knows the strengths and weakness of the individuals and the whole. He knows when they can be left free and when they need to be gathered for protection and care.

To make all this possible he is ready to sacrifice his life for theirs. Caring for sheep is not a task restricted to a few hours a day or a few days in the week. To truly care for the sheep requires making their life the center of his life. It means putting his life at risk to protect them from attacks by enemies and other dangers. It means setting aside personal desires to care for the needs of the sheep.

This is a perfect description of how a leader is to care for the people of the church. A true leader knows the strengths and weaknesses of his people and so how to feed and care for them. He knows where the dangers are and how to provide for the security and protection of each according to their strengths and weaknesses. He knows that at any time they will need him and is ready to provide what is needed at that moment.

Jesus further describes the results of those who do not fully understand the role of a leader or are not fully committed to all that is involved in being a leader in the kingdom of God. Some are like wolves who only come in order to benefit from the people. They are ready to destroy the flock in order to get what they want. How many churches have been destroyed because the leader only came to satisfy some personal desire or goal?

Others are called robbers. They are more subtle than wolves. They look good while all the time they are seeking ways to take instead of give. They want more money, more recognition, more power. They steal these from the people and impoverish their lives in the process. They give nothing and expect everything.

Others are hired workers. As long as they see the benefit of the work they will continue working. They are willing to make limited sacrifices because it brings them a benefit in the end. They are there to work but only as long as they are paid and the risks and responsibilities are not too great. If the work becomes too difficult or the dangers too great, they will quit.

The role of a shepherd or leader is crucial to the life, growth and health of the church. Those who do not understand what a leader is, what his life should be and are unprepared for the commitments involved are like the wolf, robber and hired workers. They will damage and destroy what is put in their care.

We need to clearly understand what a leader is and what is expected of a leader. This is part of what Paul is saying to Timothy in 2 Ti 2:15 about seeking to present ourselves to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and correctly handles the word of truth.

## Ω Study

### **Being a leader**

- Noble goal
- Position of Trust
- Result of testing
- Role of a mature Christian

### ➤ **Terms and Categories**

- Elders/Bishops
- Pastor/shepherd
- Overseer
- Teacher
- Deacon

### ➤ **Focus of Leadership**

- Position of service
- Door to ministry

## **Four key areas of evaluation**

- \* Personal Attributes
- \* Family Management
- \* General Relations
- \* Ministry Skills

### **\* Personal Attributes**

- Above Reproach - Blameless
- Moderate - Temperate
- Self-controlled– Not excessive
- Not a lover of money – does not seek dishonest gain
- Disciplined - focused
- Holy – relation with God
- Convinced of truth - maturity

### **\* Family Management**

- One wife
  - Worthy of respect
  - Not malicious
  - Temperate
  - Trustworthy
- Children
  - Obedient
  - Believer
  - Not wild
  - Respectful
- Home management
  - Stable finance
  - Organized

- Teaching
- Development

✳ General Relations

- Respectable – Good reputation
- Hospitable – Not quarrelsome
- Not drunken - Temperate
- Not violent – Gentle

✳ Skills

- Encourager
- Manager
- Defender
- Teacher

**Pattern of life - Results**

- Holds on to deep truths
- Able to maintain a clear conscience
- Excellent standing in Community and church
- Assurance of his faith – yields assurance in others

## Lesson Five – Sound teaching

### $\Sigma$ **Scripture**

1 Tim 4:1-14

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. 2 Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. 3 They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. 4 For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, 5 because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer. 6 If you point these things out to the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, brought up in the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. 7 Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. 8 For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. 9 This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance 10 (and for this we labor and strive), that we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, and especially of those who believe. 11 Command and teach these things. 12 Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. 13 Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. 14 Do not neglect your gift, which was

given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

2 Tim 2:1-3

You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.

2 Tim 2:15

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth

2 Tim 3:16-17

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Titus 2:12-14

12 It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope — the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.





## Preliminary Study – Questions

Deuteronomy 11:19-21 Who is commanded to teach the truths of God?

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Explain how you should teach God's word to another person.

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Joshua 1:6-8 Why does God tell Joshua to meditate on his law?

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How does knowing God's word make you strong and courageous?

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Based on your answers above, what do you think God meant when he said Joshua would be prosperous and successful?

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Psalms 1:1-3 What does it mean to delight in the law of the Lord?

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How will this affect your ability to teach?

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Matthew 7:29 What do you think it means to teach with authority?

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Do you have the authority to teach God's truth?

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## **Ψ COMMENTARY**

Teaching has been an integral part of the life of the people of God since the founding of the nation. God commanded that his law be taught to the people and the teaching of the law was included in most of the main festivals. Parents are

specifically commanded to be sure to teach their children so that they will know the word of God and be able to live by it. Teaching is considered one the greater gifts in Paul's list of gifts in 1 Corinthians 12 after being an apostle and a prophet.

In Jesus closing word to the disciples they are commanded to teach all that he has taught them and to make disciples of all nations. These two words are closely linked. To be a disciple requires one to be taught the word of God. Jesus spent three years teaching a specific group of people that he had selected, the word given him by the father. Jesus also promises that after he has left the Holy Spirit will come and teach us even more of the truth that God has for us.

In Jesus time the process of teaching had two basic forms. The most common was that done for children, especially the boys. It is not clear if girls were to be included but it is never said they were to be excluded. In Deuteronomy 11 it simply states that the children are to be taught. It is assumed that this includes all. This teaching was to be included in all aspects of their life and in any setting. The word of God was to be part of all of life and the teaching was to reflect that reality.

The Mishna (collection of Hebrew writings) indicates that boys began reading the scripture at 5 and to begin reading the Mishna at 10 and that by the age of 13 were to know the law. Depending on various choices and commitments they may enter the next form of instruction.

Only a few entered into the next level of teaching. In the Old Testament those deemed worthy or called by God may enter one of the schools. These were special schools to teach God's law to a select few who would then teach the people what they had learned. These schools developed around key prophets like Elijah and Elisha. It is clear from scripture that there were women in these schools, such as Huldah (2 Ki 22:14).

By Jesus time these schools came to be gathered around key rabbis. Gamaliel are examples of two people who lead such schools. It is possible the Paul was a student in the school founded by Gamaliel. Students would enroll in these schools and become disciples of the teaching of that rabbi who was the central teacher or founder. They would live in a compound together sharing in life and attending classes or instruction. This might occur when a young man was 15.

Jesus followed this style of teaching by gathering around him 12 disciples who he gave special instruction to. This instruction was not restricted to the 12 as is clear by various descriptions of others who traveled with the group or were present. At one time a group numbered of 72 (Lk 10:1) were sent out to teach in the cities of the surrounding area and prepare for Jesus visit to that place. Jesus spent the largest portion of his time in teaching this core group and explaining to them the teaching he gave to the crowds.

The disciples continued this pattern in Acts. They were in the temple daily teaching the people (Ac 2:46). When a problem arose regarding administration they selected others to care for the need so that they could continue to focus on teaching.

Paul rented a hall in Ephesus so that he could have a place for the people to come and be taught. Each day he met with the Disciples of Christ for discussing and prayer (Ac 6). Teaching the words of Jesus was a central part of the ministry of the church and instruction. This continued for two years. The effect of this period of teaching was that all in that region heard the word of God. The students took the teaching with them back to their homes and taught others (Acts 19:9-10).

Teaching is a critical part of the work of a leader and should have a key role in the ministry of the church. A good teacher is both a student, continuing to learn, and a teacher, able to teach others what they have learned.

# Ω Study

❖ Sound teaching is based in and grows out of a sound life.

❖ Problem – Lack of sound teaching results in a weak or nonexistent faith and in being susceptible to deception.

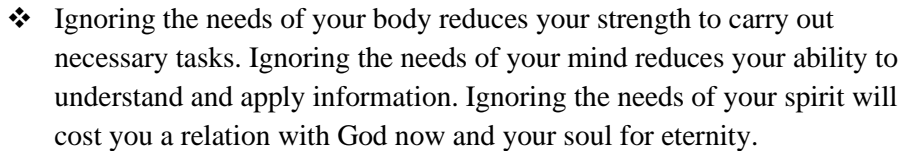
❖ Warning – Teaching based on an inconsistent, unstable and dishonest lifestyle will result in the same type of lifestyle in those we teach.

Having struggles in our life is not a sign of hypocrisy or failure, nor does that disqualify a person from being a teacher. Our ability to teach grows out of our ability to deal with life's struggles and failures and our willingness to be honest about what is happening.

## Your Work

- Point out the reality of life
  - Deception exists
  - Hypocrisy exists
  - Imbalance exists
    - Over emphasis
    - Under emphasis
    - Non emphasis

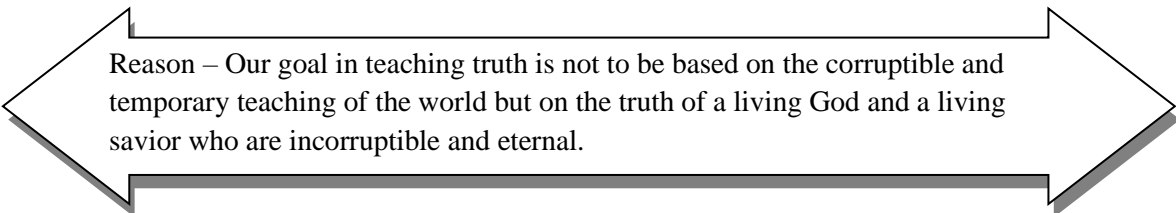
- Point out what is good
  - Study of God's love
  - Thanksgiving for God's blessings
  - Value of knowledge
  - Devotion to truth
  - Obedience to God's call
- Point out value of training
  - Physical training – present
    - Improve
    - Strengthen
  - Mental training – present
    - Improves
    - Enlightens
  - Spiritual training – present/future
    - Improves
    - Strengthens
    - Enlightens
    - Prepares



❖ Ignoring the needs of your body reduces your strength to carry out necessary tasks. Ignoring the needs of your mind reduces your ability to understand and apply information. Ignoring the needs of your spirit will cost you a relation with God now and your soul for eternity.

### **Point out choices to make**

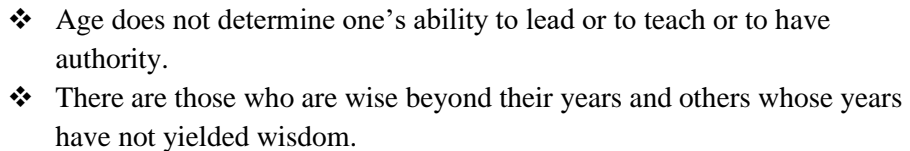
- Following good teaching
- Avoiding what is godless
- Focusing on promises



Reason – Our goal in teaching truth is not to be based on the corruptible and temporary teaching of the world but on the truth of a living God and a living savior who are incorruptible and eternal.

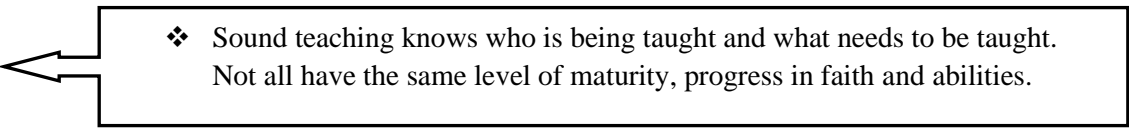
### **Form of authority**

- DIRECT - COMMAND
- INDIRECT - TEACHING
- CONFIRMATION – SUPPORT
  - SPEECH – WORDS
  - LIFE – ACTIVITY
  - LOVE – HEART
  - FAITH – SECURITY
  - PURITY – FOCUS

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- ❖ Age does not determine one's ability to lead or to teach or to have authority.
  - ❖ There are those who are wise beyond their years and others whose years have not yielded wisdom.

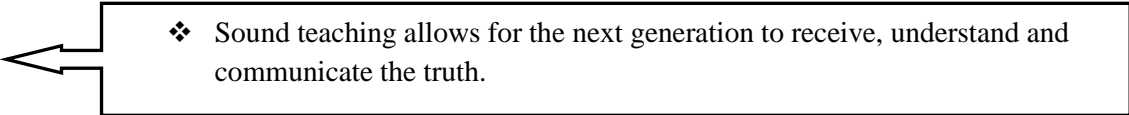
### ➤ **Levels of Teaching**

- General - Witnessed by all
- Focused – Specific group
  - Specific training
  - Specific purpose

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- ❖ Sound teaching knows who is being taught and what needs to be taught. Not all have the same level of maturity, progress in faith and abilities.

➤ **Nature of Teaching**

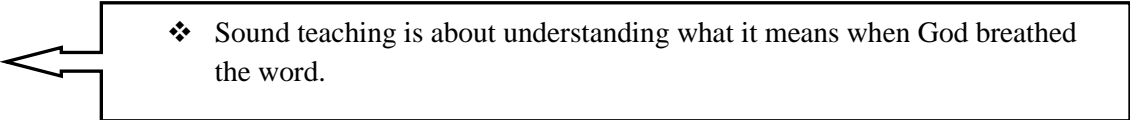
- Aware of context – presence of God
- Aware of appointment – assigned by God
- Aware of value – approved by God
- Aware of accountability – evaluated by God



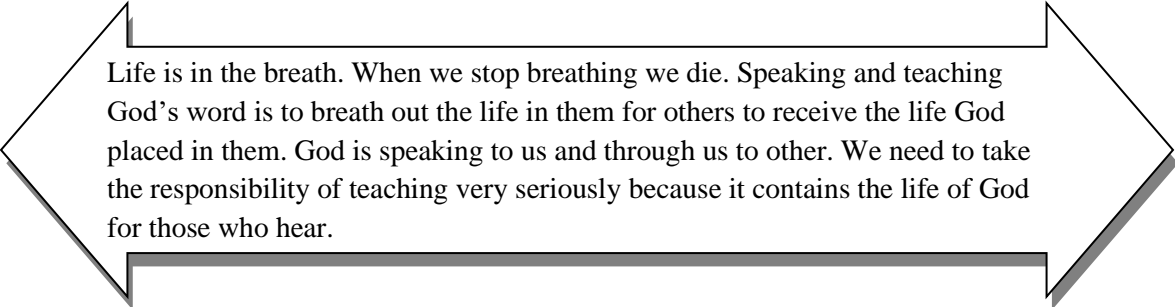
❖ Sound teaching allows for the next generation to receive, understand and communicate the truth.

➤ **Purpose of Teaching**

- To teach – word of God
- To rebuke – sinful choices
- To correct – errors in actions
- To train - in righteousness



❖ Sound teaching is about understanding what it means when God breathed the word.

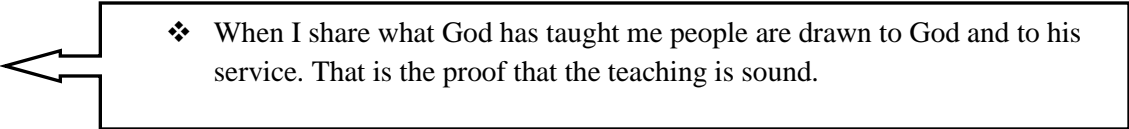


Life is in the breath. When we stop breathing we die. Speaking and teaching God's word is to breath out the life in them for others to receive the life God placed in them. God is speaking to us and through us to other. We need to take the responsibility of teaching very seriously because it contains the life of God for those who hear.



➤ **Results of Sound Teaching**

- Clear identity – ability to say no to ungodliness
- Clear understanding – ability to reject the passions of the world
- Clear choices – ability to live as the children of God
- Clear faith – ability to wait for Christ’s return
- Clear life – ability to do what is good with joy



❖ When I share what God has taught me people are drawn to God and to his service. That is the proof that the teaching is sound.

## Lesson Six — Finance

### $\Sigma$ Scripture

1 Tim 6:3-10

If anyone teaches false doctrines and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, 4 he is conceited and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions 5 and constant friction between men of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain. 6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 9 People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

2 Tim 1:8

So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God,

2 Tim 1:12

That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day.

2 Tim 2:20-22

In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. 21 If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work. 22 Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

2 Tim 3:12-14

In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, 13 while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

2 Tim 4:6-8

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day — and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Titus 3:8

This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.



## Preliminary Study – Questions

Psalms 37:3 What does it mean to trust in the Lord and do good?

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How does delighting in God affect what a person desires?

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Psalm 145:17-20 David says that God fulfills the desires of those who fear him. Do your desires reflect that you are in awe of God and fear him?

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How does being near to a righteous God affect what we ask for?

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Proverbs 23:8-9 What is the effect of desiring too much, too little, or the wrong thing?

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Matthew 6:11 What is your daily bread?

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Matthew 6:19-34 What treasures do you desire that will not survive after you die?

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What do you think a heavenly treasure is?

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What should we worry about and how will that affect our desires?

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John 15:9-17 How does our obedience to God and our relationship with Jesus affect what we ask for?

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## **Ψ COMMENTARY**

The Bible is filled with instructions and information on finances and especially on giving. These discussions are designed to help us realize that everything we have is from God. Our ability to work, earn and obtain money and the things of this world are a result of how God created us. We are to use what we receive from God to care for our needs and

to honor God for what we have received. Our use of those resources and finances reflect our understanding of this truth and our level of trust in God's care for us.

There are four levels of giving discussed in the scriptures. Each reflects a level of understanding of God's blessings to us and our willingness to continue to depend on him. Actually there is a fifth level but it involves keeping everything for ourselves and giving nothing to God. It is a statement that we depend only in ourselves and our ability to get what we need and what we want.

The first level of giving relates to the tithe. The tithe reveals the basic truth that what we have received comes from God and he has a right to a portion of what we have received. God does not need what we give to him but we need to give in recognition of God's right to all that we have.

The second level relates to giving offerings. These offerings deal with our debts and the recognition that we have broken the relation that should exist between us and God. The point of this level of giving is to restore the relation and recognize the debt we owe for our failure and our sin.

The third level concerns giving out of gratitude. These are gifts that are presented to God that are not required of us. We give because we desire to express our gratitude to God for his presence, his blessings and because of who he is as our creator.

The final level is that of sacrifice. We give beyond our ability and put our life at risk. This is done because of our belief in God's faithfulness and our willingness to depend on his provision. We give today believing that God will provide what is needed in the future.

In 2 Corinthians there is a discussion of giving. A key aspect of this giving is sacrificial giving. Paul tells the church gave what I could. This would be the first two levels, out of

respect and debt. Then Paul tells they gave more than they were able. They gave out of thanks. Finally he adds that they begged for the privilege to continue to give. They were ready to sacrifice all so that God's work would be done. Paul honors this attitude and the results that come from it. He states that neither the giver nor the one receiving lacked what they needed. God provided.



These stories are in contrast to those who did not give and were warned. The parable of the owner who chose to build bigger barns to maintain his wealth and not share it. Jesus said that night he would die and lose all the benefit he had hoped for. The rich young ruler who was unwilling to let go of his wealth to follow Jesus. The Pharisees who gave out of their wealth and for the selfish purpose of gaining recognition.

We also have the contrast between Barnabas who sold his land to help others and Ananias and Saphira who sold it to gain the praise of others. Barnabas was blessed and God punished Ananias and Saphira.

How we handle our finances is a key part of what it means to be a leader. It reveals much about who we are and our dependence on God. Paul wants to help Timothy understand this issue and to understand that money is not the only thing that we have that can be spent in God's work.

We have several examples of sacrificial giving. The widow of Zarephath willingly gave of her last food to Elijah believing his words that if she did so there would be plenty for them later. The record states that she did not run out of oil or flour until the drought end, or about three years. Jesus praises the widow who gave all she had. He said she would be blessed. Zacharias gave half of everything to the poor and then paid back four times everything that he stole. He gave all and Jesus blessed him for it.


# Ω Study


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- ❖ The problem – Lack of agreement in sound doctrine opens the door to an unhealthy situation, a loss of perspective of what is true wealth.

## Your Work

### ➤ Things to avoid

- Conceit – pride in self
- Lack of understanding – pride in comprehension
- Unhealthy interests – pride in ability
- Corruption of mind – pride in possessions

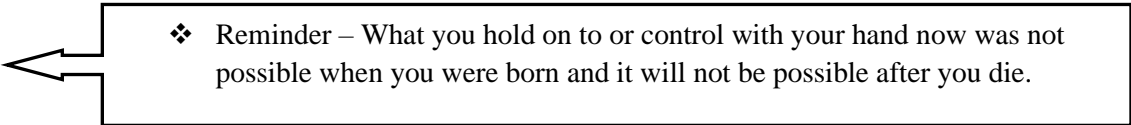
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- ❖ Results in being robbed of the truth – often before we have a chance to know the truth is ours – a gift given by God – not something we purchase.
  - ❖ Spaces exist in our life to receive gifts of God. When we are lost or confused we try to fill these spaces ourselves. Satan encourages this process and seeks to steal away what God gives to fill them.

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- ❖ Parable of Sower – Steals away or overwhelms with wrong desires the gifts of God.  
Represented by Paul in this passage as desire for financial gain.



➤ **Danger – When we believe that godliness is a means to financial gain 6:5.**

- Giving to be recognized
- Giving to receive
- Giving to gain control
- Giving to earn God's blessing
  
- Desire to be rich – Becomes focus of life – leads to
  - Temptation
  - Foolish/harmful desires
  - Ruin/destruction
- Love of money – root or hidden cause of
  - Many types of evil
  - Wandering from faith
  - Many griefs



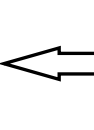
❖ **Reminder – What you hold on to or control with your hand now was not possible when you were born and it will not be possible after you die.**

➤ **Pursuing God – Finding true riches**

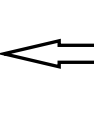
- Righteousness
- Godliness
- Faith
- Love
- Endurance
- Gentleness

➤ Finances often seen as a means to avoid suffering

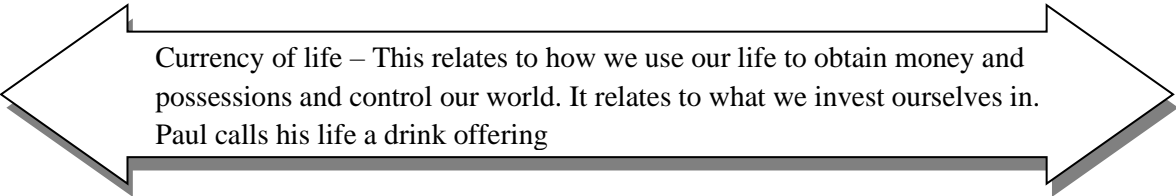
- Physical
  - Hunger
  - Shelter
  - Physical pain
- Emotional
  - Isolation
  - Rejection
  - Failure
- Spiritual – Finances cannot be used to avoid problems in this area.



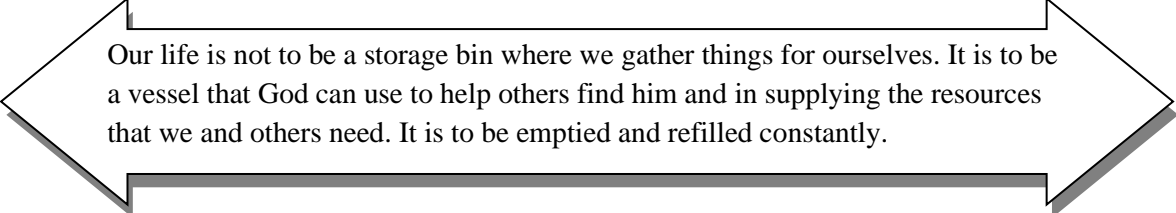
❖ We are encouraged to care for these in a balanced manner, to do what is good. To deal with our daily needs so that we will have the capacity to be productive.



❖ Finances of the world– Usually we think only in terms of money or possessions.



Currency of life – This relates to how we use our life to obtain money and possessions and control our world. It relates to what we invest ourselves in. Paul calls his life a drink offering



Our life is not to be a storage bin where we gather things for ourselves. It is to be a vessel that God can use to help others find him and in supplying the resources that we and others need. It is to be emptied and refilled constantly.

## Real time Economics

- Everything we desire will cost us something.
- The key question is what do we want.
- Paul challenges Timothy to invest his life
  - In productive living
  - In service to God
    - Herald
    - Apostle
    - Teacher
  - Entrust investments to God

### ➤ Finances of life – obtain what is needed to make us useful and productive

- Provide ability to
  - Fight the fight of faith
  - Keep the faith
  - Be a resource God can pour out
  - Be cleaned, refined for God work
  - Guard what has been given to us

### ❖ All investment comes with a risk

*Earthly treasure – keep here to lose later*

*Heavenly treasure – give here to gain later*

### ❖ **Which financial system really works? That is Paul's question to us.**

## Lesson Seven — Being Credible, Gaining Respect

### $\Sigma$ Scripture

1 Tim 4:1-16

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. 2 Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. 3 They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. 4 For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, 5 because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer. 6 If you point these things out to the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, brought up in the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. 7 Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. 8 For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. 9 This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance 10 (and for this we labor and strive), that we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, and especially of those who believe. 11 Command and teach these things. 12 Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. 13 Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. 14 Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you. 15 Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. 16

Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

2 Tim 1:16-2:13

May the Lord show mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains. 17 On the contrary, when he was in Rome, he searched hard for me until he found me. 18 May the Lord grant that he will find mercy from the Lord on that day! You know very well in how many ways he helped me in Ephesus. 2:1 You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. 3 Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 4 No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs — he wants to please his commanding officer. 5 Similarly, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules. 6 The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops. 7 Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this. 8 Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, 9 for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. 10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. 11 Here is a trustworthy saying: If we died with him, we will also live with him; 12 if we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us; 13 if we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself.

Titus 2:11-15

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. 12 It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope — the glorious

appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. 15 These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you.



## Preliminary Study – Questions

John 13:25 How does a person show their love for others?

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Acts 4:32-35 What are you or the church doing to help those in need?

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How does helping those in need help people listen to what you want to tell them?

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1 Peter 2:17 How does one show respect to another person?

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How does a person earn the respect of others?

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1 John 1:3 What have you seen or heard that would cause another person to want to be a part of the church?

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Why should they listen to you?

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Ephesians 4:11-16 What will it take for others to be built up in their faith?

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What happens if what you say is true but you are not credible?

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Colossians 1:28-29 What will it take to accomplish the task of teaching others?

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Why do you think people listed to Paul?

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Romans 12:1-8 Explain what this passage says to you about being credible and effective in your role as a leader.

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List two things you need to do to become credible, so that people will respect what you teach them.

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## **Ψ COMMENTARY**

We need to have a relationship with those we are asked to care for. A good shepherd, a good leader knows the people and they know him. They know he is good not just because of the words but also because of the actions that are linked to those words. The leader needs to be credible to those he is responsible for.



God had given his word and promises through the prophets for many centuries. He then chose to come and not just speak words but live out those words through his son. We would have the opportunity to observe what it means to love God, to experience his presence and obey his words. We would also learn what it means to be loved by God through the life and sacrifice of Jesus.

A great part of what we believe is linked not only to the words but the fact that Jesus lived out those words for all to see. It is a key point in why the disciples continued to share and teach after Jesus ascended. John uses this idea in both his gospel and his first letter. In the gospel tells people that he is sharing with them what he has seen so they will believe (Jn 20:31). In the first chapter of 1 John he repeats this idea and adds one more concept. He is telling all what he has seen, heard and touched so that others can experience the same fellowship he has with God.

Much of the rest of this book deals with living a life that makes ones words credible. He discusses how our faith, our love, our obedience and our fellowship should reveal to others the truth of the words we speak. How we live reveals the truth of our relationship with God so that others can see that truth.

Paul repeatedly challenges people to observe the effect of God's truth in his life as evidence of the truth of the gospel and as a reason for listening to what he is telling them. It is part of what he shares with Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:10. Paul is willing to endure everything so others will obtain salvation. He does not want his life to become a barrier to anyone hearing the truth.

Peter challenges us to seek to possess a number of qualities. It says that if we possess them then we will avoid being ineffective and unproductive in our knowledge of Christ. These qualities relate to how we live our lives. It is about being a light shining in a dark place for others to see (2 Peter 1:5-19).

In Acts we are told about two key features of the early church. We are informed about the teaching that occurred daily. Peter and the others focused on teaching what they had

learned (Ac 2:42; The other aspect was the way in which the early believers lived out the words they were taught. We are told they met together and cared for each other. As a result more were added to the church daily (Ac 2:44-47). Even in the face of persecution they continued to teach and live out their faith (Ac 4, 5:41-42).

As a result of their faithfulness to teach and to live out what they taught the people responded. They were respected by the people and the church grew. The people saw the evidence of the words in the lives of the people. They earned the respect of all and it tells the church increased daily (Ac 6:1).

Paul gave us a list of qualifications for a leader. The list is important; it defines what we should look for in our leader. It tells not to listen only to the words but to look at the life. Is there evidence for what the person is saying in their life? Are we credible and worthy of respect?

In this lesson we will be looking at what it means to be credible. We will explore the relationship between being an effective leader and having the respect of those we lead.


## Ω Study

### Relations – Requirements for credibility

- Separation
  - From lies
  - From errors
  - From hypocrisy
- Connections
  - With Christ
  - With truth
  - With people




❖ Learning to be in the world but not of the world.




❖ We are to be separate from the things of the world and not lose our connection with the people God wants to save.

- Basis of connection
  - Good conscience – free of prejudice
  - Good teaching – not just words but actions
  - Good training – through example
- Goal of relations
  - Creates trust
  - Creates confidence
  - Creates basis for authority
- Activities
  - Diligence needed
  - Watchfulness required
  - Perseverance essential
- Based in
  - Reading
  - Preaching
  - Teaching



❖ The depth of a relation makes it possible to save yourself and those listening to you.



❖ We will not be heard if we have not developed a relation with those who are listening.

## **Key attitudes**

- Lack of shame – upward
- Sense of urgency – inward
- Desire to help – outward

### ➤ Qualifications

- Soldier – please commander – focus – upward
- Athlete- follow guidelines – a goal – inward
- Farmer – seeing others – a result – outward

### ➤ Risks

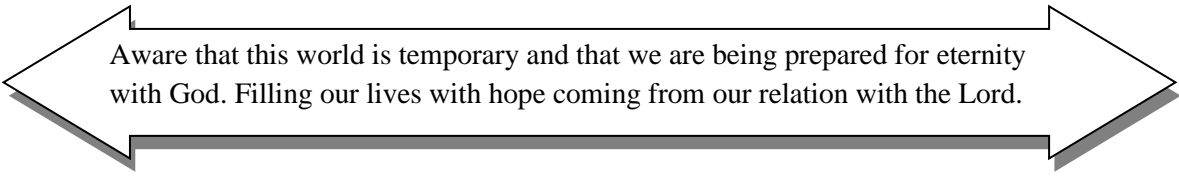
- **Suffering**
- Opposition
- Isolation

### ➤ Benefits

- Unchain the word of God
- Others obtain salvation
- Freed to live
- Reign in the kingdom of God

## **How we should live**

- ❖ Godly
- ❖ Self-controlled
- ❖ Upright



Aware that this world is temporary and that we are being prepared for eternity with God. Filling our lives with hope coming from our relation with the Lord.

Do our relations have that focus that result, as their purpose?  
Are we credible?

➤ Do We

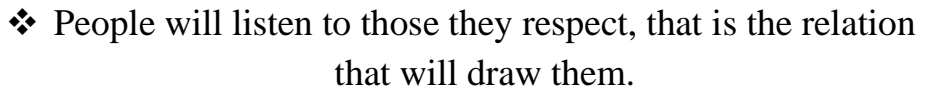
- Draw people to God
- Encourage them to do what is good



❖ Learning to be in the world but not of the world.

➤ My Task

- Teach
- Encourage
- Rebuke



❖ People will listen to those they respect, that is the relation that will draw them.

## Lesson Eight — Understanding the People

### $\Sigma$ Scripture

1 Tim 5:1-6:2

1 Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, 2 older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity. 3 Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need. 4 But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God. 5 The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and to ask God for help. 6 But the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. 7 Give the people these instructions, too, so that no one may be open to blame. 8 If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. 9 No widow may be put on the list of widows unless she is over sixty, has been faithful to her husband, 10 and is well known for her good deeds, such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the saints, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of good deeds. 11 As for younger widows, do not put them on such a list. For when their sensual desires overcome their dedication to Christ, they want to marry. 12 Thus they bring judgment on themselves, because they have broken their first pledge. 13 Besides, they get into the habit of being idle and going about from house to house. And not only do they become idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying things they ought not to. 14 So I counsel younger widows to marry, to have children, to manage their homes and to give the enemy no opportunity for slander. 15 Some have in fact already turned away to follow Satan. 16 If any woman who is a believer has widows in her family, she should

help them and not let the church be burdened with them, so that the church can help those widows who are really in need. 17 The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. 18 For the Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages." 19 Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by two or three witnesses. 20 Those who sin are to be rebuked publicly, so that the others may take warning. 21 I charge you, in the sight of God and Christ Jesus and the elect angels, to keep these instructions without partiality, and to do nothing out of favoritism. 22 Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, and do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure. 23 Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses. 24 The sins of some men are obvious, reaching the place of judgment ahead of them; the sins of others trail behind them. 25 In the same way, good deeds are obvious, and even those that are not cannot be hidden.

#### 1 Timothy 6:1-2

6:1 All who are under the yoke of slavery should consider their masters worthy of full respect, so that God's name and our teaching may not be slandered. 2 Those who have believing masters are not to show less respect for them because they are brothers. Instead, they are to serve them even better, because those who benefit from their service are believers, and dear to them. These are the things you are to teach and urge on them.

#### Titus 2:1-15

You must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine. 2 Teach the older men to be temperate, worthy of respect, self-controlled, and sound in faith, in love and in endurance. 3 Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. 4 Then they can

train the younger women to love their husbands and children, 5 to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God. 6 Similarly, encourage the young men to be self-controlled. 7 In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness 8 and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us. 9 Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything, to try to please them, not to talk back to them, 10 and not to steal from them, but to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive. 11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. 12 It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope — the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. 15 These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you.



## Preliminary Study – Questions

In the following texts there are two different topics. One relates to a location where teaching occurs. IN the second different groups are mentioned and directions are given about what they should be taught. Read each of the texts and list the group or location and what was being taught.

Ephesians 5:22-6:9

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2

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3

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4

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5

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6

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Mark 10:14

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Luke 8:10

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Matthew 13:36, 54

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Matthew 21:23

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2 Peter 3:1

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Acts 19:19

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Ephesians 3:7-10

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1

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Mark 10:38-42

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1

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## **Ψ COMMENTARY**

Every church is made of different groups of people. There are age groups ranging from children to senior citizens. There are social groups ranging from married to unmarried, youth and others. There are ministry groups like worship teams, cell group ministry and evangelism. There are many more and every church has a different combination of them.

A wise leader does not assume what groups are a part of his church or try to create groups to satisfy his concept of what kinds of groups there should be in a church. His first task is to identify the nature of his church and what groups are present in that church.

The structure of the church and the type of groups in a church relate to the community where the church exists, the cultural structures of the people who are members in that church, the social economic levels of those who attend the church and many other factors.

A church's structure is also affected by the age and development of the church. Is it a new church, old church, growing church, or dying church? Has the church been successful in its ministry to the community or have there been problems and other issues? What kind of facilities does the church have and how do these affect its ability to minister to various types of groups.

Are there people moving into the community or are the people leaving the community? Is the church seen as one that cares about the needs of the people of the community or does it isolate itself from the community? What kinds of people live near the church and attend the church?

The church that is in a rural community has a very different structure than one that lives in the center of a very large community. A church that everyone walks to has different needs from a church where the members have cars and the ability to travel longer distances in search of a church that meets their needs.

Jesus says the good shepherd knows his sheep. He knows his people and what their needs are as individuals and as they are part of different groups. He also knows that things are constantly changing within the flock and that his care needs to reflect those changes. Children do not remain children. Couples get married and then have children and a time comes when their children are grown and leave. That means the needs of the couples is constantly changing. There are seasons of growth, change and death and each affects the church differently. This means what we teach to people and groups of people need to reflect our understanding of where they are now, where they are going and their needs at each stage of their

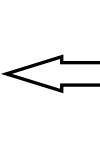
life. Effective leadership is linked to being able to see what groups exist, and which groups are needed and providing for the needs of each group. We also need to understand how to change and adapt to the changes that occur within the groups over time.

What we do today may have little relation to the needs that will exist in the future. It is not just about seeing and responding to what is needed today but observing where we are and anticipating the changes that are likely to occur in the future and planning for those changes.

## **Ω Study**

### **Defining Relationships**

- Older men – Father
- Younger men – brothers
- Older women – mother
- Younger women – sister



❖ Reality – Every church is made up of different groups of people, different types of relations, and as a result different needs, abilities and different stages of life.

- ❖ Specific Guidelines
- ❖ General Guidelines
- ❖ Lists of Groups

- Timothy
  - Widow- older
    - Younger
  - Older men – elders
  - Slaves
  - Families
- Titus
  - women - older
  - women- younger
  - Men – older
  - Men - younger
  - Slaves

Men	Young	Parents	
	Old	Grandparents	
Women	Young	Families	Both work
	Old		One works
	Widow		
Single adults		Single parent	
Couples	No children	Working people	Self-employed
	Young children		Unemployed
	Adolescents		Employee
	Grown children		Employer
New believers		Board member	
Disciples		Leadership team	
Children		Ministry team	Worship
Youth			Evangelism
College Age			Small group
Battered Women	Alcoholics	Negro	Indigenous
Drug addicts	Street Kids	Expatriates	Other

➤ Paul’s thoughts on the needs of some groups

**Timothy**

- Older men
  - Exhort – no rebuke or condemn
  - Respect – treat like a father
- Widows – general

- Recognize needs
- Guide the focus of their activity
- Older
  - Knowledge of age
  - Situation
  - Abilities
- Younger
  - Aware of key issues
  - Aware of dangers for them
  - Aware of need for wise counsel
- Elders
  - Honor them
  - Assign them work
  - Rebuke with respect
  - Protect them
- Family responsibilities
  - Care for elder parents
  - Care for widowed parents
  - Provide for their needs
- Slaves
  - Respect master
  - Serve faithfully, honorably
  - Work carefully

❖ **General Guides for work with groups**

- Be impartial – no favoritism
- Be patient – choosing leaders and teaching
- Be aware – each has specific needs and problems
- Be aware – respond to the good work they are doing

**Titus**

- Older Men - Teach them
  - Be temperate

- Act in way that is worthy of respect
- Be self-controlled
- Be sound in Faith, Love, and Endurance
- Older Women - Teach them
  - Be reverent
  - Be sober – have care with alcohol
  - Be effective in teaching
  - Be an example to younger women
    - of how to love husband
    - of how to love children
  - Be self-controlled
- Younger women - Teach them
  - Be self-controlled
  - Observe the examples of others
- Slaves
  - Be subject to masters
  - Be respectful
  - Be trustworthy

❖ **General – Regarding life of teacher**

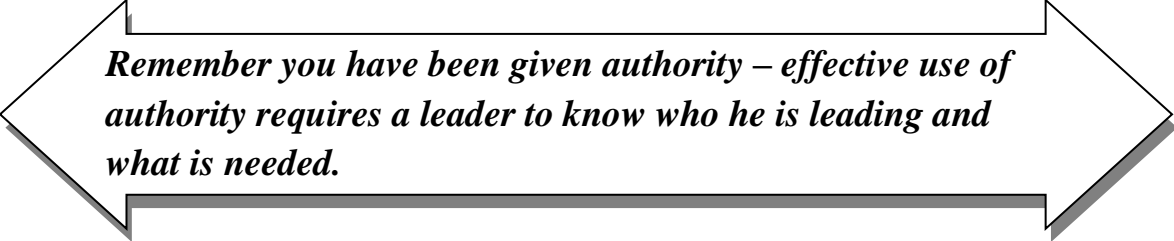
- Be a person of integrity
- Be serious in the work
- Be sound in your speech
- Be able to deal with opposition

Make a list of four things you should teach the group you are responsible for

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

## **General Instructions for teaching**

- ❖ Say no to ungodliness
- ❖ Say no to passions of the world
- ❖ Say yes to self-control
- ❖ Say yes to living upright
- ❖ Value of patience while teaching
- ❖ Reveal purpose of Christ's life
  - Redemption of others through giving
  - Readiness to serve



***Remember you have been given authority – effective use of authority requires a leader to know who he is leading and what is needed.***



## Lesson Nine — Accountability

### $\Sigma$ Scripture

1 Tim 1:15-20

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners — of whom I am the worst. 16 But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. 17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. 18 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, 19 holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith. 20 Among them are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme.

2 Tim 4:1-21

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: 2 Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage — with great patience and careful instruction. 3 For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own

desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. 5 But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry. 6 For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day — and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing. 9 Do your best to come to me quickly, 10 for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. 11 Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry. 12 I sent Tychicus to Ephesus. 13 When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments. 14 Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done. 15 You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message. 16 At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. 17 But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. 18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory forever and ever. Amen. 19 Greet Priscilla and Aquila and the household of Onesiphorus. 20 Erastus stayed in Corinth, and I left Trophimus sick in Miletus. 21 Do your best to get here before winter. Eubulus greets you, and so do Pudens, Linus, Claudia and all the brothers.

## Titus 1:1-6

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of God's elect and the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness— 2 a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time, 3 and at his appointed season he brought his word to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Savior, 4 To Titus, my true son in our common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior. 5 The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.



## Preliminary Study – Questions

Matthew 22:14 Why are so many that are invited or called not chosen?

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Galatians 5:7 Why do people who do well as Christians start to fail?

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Luke 14:28 What will it cost to not fail as a leader?

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1 Timothy 6:1 Explain why people start to wander away from their faith?

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Luke 14:28 What costs do you need to consider as a leader in the church?

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Matthew 25:14-30 What can you learn about the importance of accountability from this parable?

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Matthew 19:30 Why would people who thought they should be first end up last?

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Philippians 3:16 What does it mean to live up to what you have attained and how does this relate to being accountable?

# Ψ COMMENTARY

The concept of accountability is not new in the bible. From the beginning we have been dealing with this concept. God held Adam and Eve accountable for their decision to disobey and the serpent was held accountable for his part in deceiving them. Cain tries to deny accountability for his brother but God rejects his statement and tells Cain he is in fact responsible for his brother.

The spies sent into the promise land where given a task and when they returned had to report on what they saw. The decision made by the people not to obey God resulted in 40 years of wandering. Achan and his family were held accountable for Israel's defeat at Ai and were punished.

The list of situations and examples of people being held accountable for what they do with what the responsibilities they have been given is very long. Accountability is the basis of our status as sinners. God has given us his truth and we have not done what is right. God states clearly he will hold us accountable for our choices and actions.

Ezekiel was told that he was appointed to be a watchman for Israel. If he warned the people then he would not be accountable for any failure on their part to listen. He would not be punished. If they listened he would share in the blessings that would come. If he did not carry out his duties he would be held accountable for what would happen to the people because he failed to warn them.

Jesus in his final prayer recorded in John 17 makes many statements of accountability. He reports to his father what he was assigned to do and what he has done. Jesus understood that he was accountable to his father for his life and ministry.

The letters of the New Testament in many ways focus on issues of accountability. Often the writer includes reports on what he has done and the results of his choices and actions.

The larger part of the letters involves statements related to what is expected of those receiving the letters. They are accountable for the truth they have received and what they are doing with it.

Paul writes to these two young men and shares with them their duties and responsibilities. He tells them what they are accountable for as leaders. He also shares from his own life, he reports to them and makes himself accountable to them. They can evaluate Paul's life and understand better what it means to be accountable.

People are always watching and evaluating what we say and do. Are we willing to be accountable for our choices, our actions and our attitudes as leaders?

## Ω Study

### \* Accountability Statement

1 Tim 1:15-17

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners — of whom I am the worst. 16 But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. 17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

## **Accountability to God**

Chosen - Being an example for God to others

Chosen – involves accountability – Goal is to be called

Called - Following through on God’s call for our life

Called – involves accountability – Goal is to be appointed

Responsible – Protecting what we have from ruin

Appointed – involved accountability – Goal is to be honored

### ❖ **Narrow Road – Guidelines**

- Accountability – wise choices – teachable
- Accountability – submission – reliable
- Accountability – consistent – faithful

### ❖ **Wide Road – Lack of guide lines**

- Without accountability – careless – unprepared (many called few chosen)
- Without accountability – self-centered – unreliable (begin well but fail)
- Without accountability – Erratic – unworthy – (don’t count the cost)


## **\* Accountability Statement**

1 Tim 2:7


And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle — I am telling the truth, I am not lying — and a teacher of the true faith to the Gentiles.

## Accountable to others – accountable for what you have learned

- Point out – to show others what it means
  - To be a good minister
  - To be brought up in the faith
  - To be following the teaching of God
    - 4:12 – Set an example – exhibit
    - 4:13 – Commit yourself – devotion
    - 4:14 – Do not neglect – focus
    - 4:15 – Be diligent – diligence
    - 4:15 – Be watchful – attention



❖ Perseverance in these areas will help one understand the purpose and use of accountability in their life.



❖ It is wise to have witnesses to our promises and commitments so that we will be effective and impartial in our training.

### ➤ Witnesses

- \* God
- \* Jesus Christ
- \* Angels
- \* Church



## ✧ **Accountability Statement**

1 Tim 5:21


I charge you, in the sight of God and Christ Jesus and the elect angels, to keep these instructions without partiality, and to do nothing out of favoritism.

## ✧ **Accountability Statement**

1 Tim 6:20 Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care.

2 Tim 1:6

For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.



❖ We are accountable to the one who has called us and for what we have received from Him.

## ✧ **Accountability Statement**

2 Tim 1:11-13 And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. 12 That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day. 13 What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 1:11-13

Convinced      Uncertain      (value)

2 Timothy 1:14-16

Guarding      Deserting      (commitment)  
Honored      Ashamed      (attitude)

2 Timothy 2:10

Enduring      Transitory      (cost)

## ✧ **Accountability Statement**

2 Tim 2:8-10

This is my gospel, 9 for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. 10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

- ◆ 2 Timothy 2:15-15  
Approved      Rejected      (purpose)
- ◆ Timothy 2:20  
Noble      inferior      (Goal)

## ✧ **Accountability Statement**

2 Tim 3:10-11

You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, 11 persecutions, sufferings — what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them.

- ◆ 2 Timothy 3:10-11  
Visible      Hidden      (Nature of Work)

## ✧ **Accountability Statement**

2 Tim 4:6-8

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day — and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his

◆ 2 Timothy 4:6-8

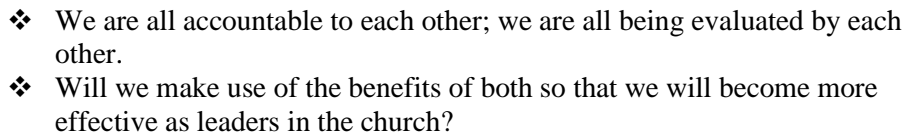
Rewarded

Censored

(Results)

➤ **Evaluations –**

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| • Demas              | Loved the world          |
| • Mark               | Helpful                  |
| • Alexander          | Harmful                  |
| • Onesiphorus        | Faithful                 |
| • Phygelus           | Unreliable               |
| • Hermogenes         | Deserter                 |
| • Jannes             | Depraved                 |
| • Jambre             | Foolish                  |
| • Crescens           | Worker                   |
| • Titus              | Partner, Comfortor       |
| ▪ TYCHICUS           | <b>FAITHFUL</b>          |
| ▪ PRISCILLA, AQUILLA | <b>FRIENDS</b>           |
| ▪ EUBULUS, PUDEN     | <b>FELLOW CHRISTIANS</b> |
| ▪ LINUS, CLAUDIA     | <b>FELLOW CHRISTIANS</b> |

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- ❖ We are all accountable to each other; we are all being evaluated by each other.
  - ❖ Will we make use of the benefits of both so that we will become more effective as leaders in the church?

## Lesson Ten - Identity

### $\Sigma$ Scripture

1 Tim 1:1-2

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope, 2 To Timothy my true son in the faith: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 Tim 3:16

Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great: He appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.

1 Tim 5:22-25

Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, and do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure. 23 Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses. 24 The sins of some men are obvious, reaching the place of judgment ahead of them; the sins of others trail behind them. 25 In the same way, good deeds are obvious, and even those that are not cannot be hidden.

1 Tim 6:11-21

But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. 12 Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. 13 In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus,

who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you 14 to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 which God will bring about in his own time — God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, 16 who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen. 17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 19 In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. 20 Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, 21 which some have professed and in so doing have wandered from the faith. Grace be with you.

2 Tim 1:1-2

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, 2 To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Tim 2:11-13

Here is a trustworthy saying: If we died with him, we will also live with him; 12 if we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us; 13 if we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself.

2 Tim 2:22-26

Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 23 Don't have anything to do with

foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. 24 And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. 25 Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, 26 and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

2 Tim 4:17-18

But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. 18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Titus 1:1-4

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of God's elect and the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness— 2 a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time, 3 and at his appointed season he brought his word to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Savior, 4 To Titus, my true son in our common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

Titus 1:12-13

Even one of their own prophets has said, "Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons." 13 This testimony is true. Therefore, rebuke them sharply, so that they will be sound in the faith

Titus 3:1-2

Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, 2 to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men.



## Preliminary Study – Questions

John 1:43-48 What did Jesus know about Nathanael?

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How did this affect Nathanael's decision to accept Jesus?

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John 4:15-19; 39-42 How did Jesus' knowledge about the Samaritans and this woman affect his teaching?

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How did the woman respond to his teaching?

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Why did the people listen to a person that they had previously rejected?



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1 Corinthians 3:1-4 Why did Paul have to feed the church only milk when he taught them?

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1 Corinthians 2:6-16 What should be the source of our teaching?

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How does having the mind of Christ affect your ability to teach?

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How will this affect your ability to understand and lead others?

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# Ψ COMMENTARY

Throughout these letters there have been comments and instructions given to help these two leaders be more effective in their work. The nature of the instructions reveals that Paul knows these two very well and that he is well informed about the locations where they are working. This results in a number of differences in what Paul has to tell each of them.

Paul adapts his teaching for Timothy and Titus to their individual abilities and needs, the nature of the work they are being asked to do and the makeup of the people they have been assigned to work with. This makes the teaching much more effective and makes it easier for each to carry out the tasks they have been given. This indicates a key aspect of what it means to be a leader.

A leader realizes that both he and those he teaches have unique backgrounds, abilities and needs. He knows his own skills and applies them in such a way as to encourage those he is leading. He also takes time to understand those he is leading in greater detail. This makes it easier to make wise decisions about the work to be given and determine what further training and supervision will be needed. Finally a wise leader takes time to

Understand the context in which the work is to be done or the culture of those being served, especially when there are differences between the culture of the worker and those he is serving.

This helps us see that there are three key identities to keep in mind when we are involved in leading others. My identity, the identities of those I have been assigned to lead and the identity of the locale in which the work takes place.

In 1 Corinthians 9 Paul has a long discussion about some of these issues. He deals with expectations, needs and how to be effective. He concludes this section with the statement that he will become all things to all people so that by all means he will be able to win some (vs 22-23). A good leader seeks to understand who he is, who he is leading and the context in which the process takes place.

Jesus came to earth and became a member of a specific society and adapted his teaching and ministry to fit that group. As you read through Paul's letters you will see differences in what he writes which many times reflects his awareness of the differences in their backgrounds and development as Christians. A key reason for the differences in the content of the different gospels relates to who they were written to. Matthew was written mainly to Jews and reflects that. John was written to a group that was born after Jesus lived and was mainly Gentiles. Luke was clearly written to a gentile who was seeking to understand.

We need to become aware of our identity so that we can draw on our experience and relation with God to provide an example to others. We need to be aware of the identities of the individuals we are leading so that we will be effective in helping them to grow and develop. We also need to know the identity of the location in which the work is taking place. This will relate to identifying key areas of struggle and of training. The better we know the identity of the location the more effective we can be as leaders.

## Ω Study

### Identity

- ◆ Paul - Leader
  - Apostle of Jesus
  - Chosen by God's will
- Blasphemer
- Persecutor

- A servant
  - Persecuted
  - Imprisoned
  - Macedonia/Rome
  - ◆ Timothy - disciple
    - True son in the faith
    - Dear son
    - Sincere faith
    - Ephesus, other
  - ◆ Titus - disciple
    - True son in the faith
    - Strong personality
    - Reliable
    - Crete
- Godly Family  
Special prophecy
- Once foolish  
Needs encouragement

❖ The better I know myself, my strengths and weakness the more effective I will be helping others deal with who they are and grow as leaders.

❖ A key element of being a leader is one's ability to be honest about who they have been and who they are.


## **Directions**

- \* *Posse challenges to each about various topics to help them better understand themselves*

<i>Basis of Hope</i>	<i>1 Timothy 4:10</i>
<i>Value of training</i>	<i>1 Timothy 4:8</i>
<i>Mystery of Godliness</i>	<i>1 Timothy 3:16</i>


*Value of faithfulness*    *2 Timothy 2:11-13*

*Purpose of Suffering*    *2 Timothy 1:12; 2:10; 3:12*


- 
- ❖ Wisdom in leadership knows when to give a complete answer and when to present a challenge that requires reflection and meditation.

\* Assign work

- Ephesus      Correct errors
  - Teach
  - Future plans
- Crete      Select leaders
  - Teach
  - Provide for needs of ministers
  - Silence deceivers


- 
- ❖ The work we assign needs to reflect task we are giving the individual and the group of people they are working with.

- Develop Guidelines
  - Life      Avoid
    - Pursue
    - Guard
  - Teaching      Remember
    - Impartial




❖ Just like on a winding road that has signs to inform us and warn us we need to provide similar information to those we are leading so they will understand how go forward.

- Promise Blessing
  - Treasure of God
  - Grace of God
  - Mercy of God
  - Peace of God
  - Provision of God



❖ We all want to know the benefits to us and others of what we are doing. It is important to clearly explain what God has for those who serve effectively.


- Give Evaluation
  - Follow through
  - Concern for haste in selections
  - Weaknesses
  - Need for personal study habits



❖ Nobody likes to continue making the same mistakes and we all like to know if we are making progress.

- **Be Example**
  - Paul's life Confidence
    - Honesty
    - Unashamed
    - Faith
    - Patience
    - Commitment


- Paul's work
  - Apostle
  - Servant
  - Suffering



❖ Leading is about living according to what we say and teach. It is much easier to follow the person who is actually walking ahead of us than one who is following us or not even on the same road with us.

➤ **Expose Dangers**


- Danger of money
- Danger of careless thinking



❖ Don't treat others like animals to be trapped. Warn them where the traps are and the dangers of falling into each type of trap. It is usually very difficult to rescue someone once they fall into a trap and can be dangerous.

➤ **Identify personal needs**

- Value of family
- Care for health
- Concern for approval
- Need for instruction
- Reminders of work
- Issues of past
- Adapt instruction
- Supervision needs



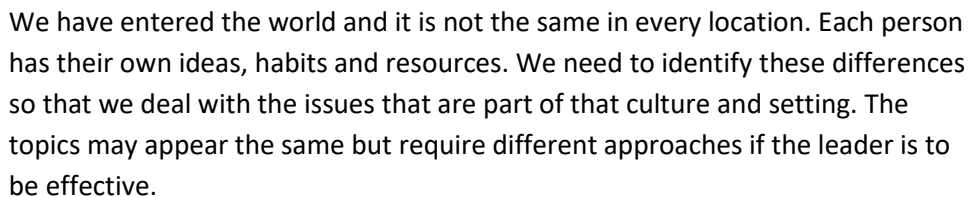
❖ People are not machines. You can't interchange the parts each is unique. As a result one size does not fit all. We need to know how to adapt what we teach to each person.

➤ **Understanding context**

- **Ephesus –**
  - **magic, false religion**
  - **Major city, crossroad**
- **Crete – laziness, slowness**
  - **Island, region, isolation**
  - **Political environment**

➤ **Cultural issues**

<u>Ephesus</u>	<u>Crete</u>
Myths/magic	brutish people
Genealogies	Lazy
Attire	Divisive
Role of women	Circumcision group
Marriage	Deception
Food taboos	



We have entered the world and it is not the same in every location. Each person has their own ideas, habits and resources. We need to identify these differences so that we deal with the issues that are part of that culture and setting. The topics may appear the same but require different approaches if the leader is to be effective.

- **NOW IT IS TIME TO START ALL OVER AGAIN. AT EVERY POINT IN THE ROLE OF BEING A LEADER WE NEED TO CONTINUE**



- 1) TO BE AWARE OF WHAT IS FALSE,
- 2) BE ABLE TO OFFER GRACE
- 3) BE ABLE TO KEEP PEOPLE'S EYES ON GOD IN WORSHIP
- 4) BE WILLING TO LIVE BY GOD'S STANDARD
- 5) BE STUDENTS OF GOD'S WORD
- 6) BE CAREFUL WITH THE USE OF THE RESOURCES WE HAVE BEEN  
GIVEN
- 7) BE CREDIBLE IN THE EYES OF THOSE WE LEAD
- 8) BE AWARE OF THE STRUCTURE OF THE GROUP WE LEAD
- 9) BE ACCOUNTABLE TO OTHERS FOR WHAT WE DO
- 10) BE CONSCIOUS OF OUR IDENTITY AND THAT OF THOSE WE LEAD