

# Study Questions

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## *For New Testament Books of the Bible*

### **1 Timothy**

#### Chapter 1

1. Who is the author of 1 Timothy? When was this letter written? Where was the author writing from and to whom was this letter written? Why did the author write this letter?
2. As this letter opens, how does Paul describe himself (v.1)?
3. **REFLECTION:** Paul left Timothy at Ephesus to correct the spread of false doctrine. Paul himself visited Ephesus twice. Why did Paul choose Ephesus as a place to establish a church?
4. What does Paul's say is his purpose in instruction for all Christians (v.5)?
5. What does Paul mean in verse 6 when he indicates that some teachers have missed the point spending their time in useless arguing?
6. Reread verses 7 through 11. Who does Paul say the Laws of Moses were and were not intended for?
7. **SELAH:** Paul mentions homosexuality in this letter (verse 10). God Himself spoke to Moses on the subject in Leviticus 18:22. Reevaluate your thoughts on the subject considering both what the Old and New Testaments have to say about it. Share your thoughts.
8. Why does Paul say he is thankful to Christ Jesus (v.12-14)?
9. Why does Paul say Jesus came into the world (v.13)? Have you accepted Christ and His message to us?
10. **REFLECTION:** Paul tells Timothy to keep his conscience clear. What does it mean and how can each of us "keep our conscience clear?"

## 1 Timothy Chapter 2

1. **REFLECTION:** Paul asks Timothy to “pray for all people (v.1).” Reflect and answer the questions: How does prayer work? If God knows what everybody needs and He knows the ultimate outcome of our individual lives, what need is there for any of us to pray for ourselves or on anybody else’s behalf?
2. Why is Jesus Christ our one and only Mediator who can reconcile us to God (v.5)?
3. In verse 7, Paul says he has been chosen as “.....a preacher and an Apostle.” When and where was Paul chosen to be an Apostle? And when and where did Paul become an Apostle?
4. Why did Paul tell Timothy and the congregation at Ephesus how to pray (v.8)?
5. Why did Paul tell Christian women what to wear (v.9-10)?
6. How do you interpret Paul’s views on how women should behave in the church (v.9-10)?
7. What does Paul mean when he says, “But women will be saved through childbearing.....?” (v.15)

## 1 Timothy Chapter 3

1. Paul begins Chapter 3 by talking about the desired characteristics of an “Elder.” Define the term “elder.” Who or what is an “elder?”
2. What positive characteristics does Paul say a man must have to become an elder in the church (v. 2)?
3. What negative characteristics does Paul say a man must not have to become an elder?
4. **PERSONAL REFLECTION:** In verses 4 and 5, Paul implies that church leaders (and volunteers) must not neglect their own families for the church. Reflect on whether you place your church activities above the well-being of your family. If you do, explain how you intend to remedy this situation.
5. **BIBLE/BIBLE DICTIONARY/COMMENTARY SEARCH:** In verses 8-12, Paul lays out the requisite characteristics to become a “deacon” in the church. Search your Bible, Dictionary, Bible Dictionary or Commentary to determine the distinction between an “elder” and a “deacon.”
6. In the closing statements of this chapter, why does Paul say he addressed the topics of elders and deacons (v.15)?
7. What does Paul say is the great mystery of our faith (v.16)?

## 1 Timothy Chapter 4

1. What are the “last times” Paul is referring to in verse 1? What time period does the “last times” cover?
2. What does Paul say will happen in the last times?
3. **SCRIPTURE SEARCH:** Where in the Bible does Christ himself, specifically warn us about false prophets during the last or end times? Cite at least two scriptures where He does this?
4. **REFLECTION:** Muslims and Jews believe it is wrong to eat certain kinds of food, however Paul says “.....But God created those foods to be eaten with thanksgiving by people who know and believe the truth. Since everything God created is good, we should not reject any of it. We may receive it gladly, with thankful hearts. For we know it is made holy by the word of God and prayer (v.3-5)” Read Leviticus 11 and Romans 14:2-4, then discuss.
5. Paul admonishes us to “Do not waste time arguing over Godless ideas and old wives tales (v.7). Give a couple of contemporary examples of each (i.e., Godless ideas and old wives tales) respond to their questions?
6. Which does Paul say is more important and why, physical or spiritual exercise (v.8)?
7. Whom does Paul say our “hope” is in (v.10)?
8. According to Paul, who is the living God the Savior of?
9. Why did Paul tell Timothy not to let anyone think less of himself because he (Timothy) was young (v.12)?
10. What did Paul tell Timothy to focus on until Paul could join Timothy in Ephesus (v.13)?

## 1 Timothy Chapter 5

1. In the opening of this chapter, how does Paul admonish Timothy (and us) to speak to men and women of all ages (v.1-2)?
2. When does Paul say the church should step in and help the widow (v.3-5)?
3. **REFLECTION:** What do you think Paul meant when he said in verse 6, “But the widow who lives only for pleasure is spiritually dead (v.6)?
4. **PERSONAL REFLECTION:** In verse 8, Paul says, “But those who won’t care for their own relatives, especially those living in the same household, have denied what we believe. Such people are worse than unbelievers.” Do you have relatives in your immediate family (parent, sibling, grandparent) or your extended family (aunt, uncle, cousin) that you could be helping, but are not? Explain. Do you feel any obligation to help those in your extended family? Why or why not?
5. What criteria did Paul tell Timothy the church should require to put a widow on church support (v.9-10)?
6. Why does Paul say younger women should not be on the list to receive church support?
7. Verse 13 seems rather judgmental and slightly misogynistic. Why do you think Paul included such a strong statement in this letter? What do you know of Paul’s attitude towards women? Discuss.
8. **SCRIPTURE SEARCH:** In verse 18, Paul quotes scripture which says those who work deserve their pay. Where in the Old Testament does it say “Do not keep an ox from eating as it treads out the grain?” Where in the New Testament does Christ say, “Those who work deserve their pay!”
9. In verse 17, Paul mentions both preaching and teaching. In your opinion, what is the difference between teaching and preaching?
10. **DICTIONARY SEARCH:** What does the word “rebuke” mean? Why does Paul say anyone who sins should be rebuked in front of the whole church (v.20)?

## 1 Timothy Chapter 6

1. What Christian relationships today are like the Christian master/slave relationships of Paul's time?
2. **REFLECTION:** Why do you think Paul never spoke against the institution of slavery?
3. In this chapter (6) what did Paul advise Timothy about false teachers?
4. What does Paul say is the result of the love of money (v.10)?
5. In verse 11, what did Paul tell Timothy to pursue?
6. In verses 13 and 14, what command did Paul give to Timothy?
7. **REFLECTION:** Why did Paul tell Timothy to tell the rich not to be proud (v.17)?
8. What was Paul referring to when he told Timothy in verse 20 to, "Guard what God has entrusted to you?"