



LIVING  
TOGETHER

AS THE  
*Family*  
OF GOD



**1 TIMOTHY**



# ‘LIVING TOGETHER AS THE FAMILY OF GOD’

## 1 TIMOTHY

### *Personal Devotions*

Use this book to help you read your Bible every day. You will find a guide that will help you read through scriptures related to our sermon series, as well as some other passages. Scribble down your thoughts and questions and remember to pray and ask God to speak to you by his Spirit, through his Word.

### *Community Groups*

Take this booklet with you to your Community Group each week. Our study material is based on the Sunday Bible talks and have been provided for each week, so you could use this space to write down comments, questions and prayer points from the study that week.

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# 1 Timothy - Overview

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## *Introduction to 1 Timothy*

1 Timothy is often considered together with 2 Timothy and Titus, in a group referred to as the 'Pastoral Epistles'. There are understandable reasons for this. Unlike most of Paul's letters, they are written to individuals not churches. Unlike Philemon, however, which is also written to an individual, 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus are written to gospel **co-workers of Paul's**, instructing them about various aspects of their ministry.

Nevertheless, the three letters each reflect unique circumstances and concerns, both personally for Paul, and pastorally for Timothy and Titus. For that reason, 1 Timothy needs to be considered by itself, not only in conjunction with 2 Timothy and Titus.

The situation of 1 Timothy is introduced in 1:3-5. Paul has departed for Macedonia, leaving Timothy in Ephesus with the purpose of commanding certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote controversies rather than God's work. The goal of this is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

Paul's ministry in Ephesus was one of his longest – three years (Acts 20:31). However, his farewell to the Ephesian elders (Acts 20:13-38) raises the prospect of the kind of false teachers that 1 Timothy seems to be responding to – men who would arise from *within* the Ephesian church, who would distort the truth in order to draw away disciples.

This problem of false teachers makes great sense of the lengthy instructions about the qualifications for those who would serve as overseers or elders (ch3). In the context of false teachers, faithful leaders who will 'keep hold of the deep truths of the faith' (3:9) are essential.

However, these instructions in chapter 3 also highlight that the suitability of a would-be overseer or elder is not simply a matter of their doctrine (ie. the *content* of what they teach). It is just as much a matter of their godliness (ie. the *manner* in which they live).

But this is not only a factor for would-be overseers and elders. 'Life and doctrine' are what Timothy must watch closely himself (4:16), just as Paul had talked of, almost exclusively, in his farewell to the Ephesian elders (Acts 20:13-38). **What matters is character and conviction.** This is something for the whole church as well – Paul writes so that Timothy would 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'* (4:15).

The reason for this connection between life and doctrine is simple: the gospel leads to godliness. Put positively, the mystery of godliness is the gospel message about Christ (3:16). Or, in the words of Titus 2:1, there is a way of life that *'is in accord with sound doctrine'*. Put negatively in 1 Timothy, there is also a way of life that *'is contrary to the sound doctrine that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God'* (1:11).

Against this whole background, Paul writes with a clear understanding of his own unique position in God's plans of salvation (e.g., 1:12-17; 2:7) charging Timothy first of all to 'fight the good fight' of the gospel himself (e.g., 1:18; 6:11-16), and then after that to oppose the false teachers in Ephesus (e.g. 1:3-7; 6:5-10), appointing instead godly and faithful leaders (e.g., ch3), and

ensuring by his teaching that people know how they are to live godly lives as members of God's church (e.g., ch2, ch5).

### ***The structure of 1 Timothy***

1:1-2	Greeting
1:3-11	Instruction to Timothy concerning the false teachers
1:12-20	God's mercy to Paul and Paul's charge to Timothy
2:1-7	Public prayer in light of the gospel
2:8-15	Godliness for men and women in light of the gospel
3:1-16	Leadership and conduct in the church in light of the gospel
4:1-16	Timothy's pursuit of life and doctrine
5:1-24	Timothy's treatment and care of others without favouritism
6:1-10	Slavery that honours God and godliness with contentment
6:11-19	A charge for Timothy and a command for the rich
6:20-21	Farewell

### ***General Direction of Series***

In 3:15, Paul explains that his goal in writing is for Timothy to 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*'. This is followed by a declaration of the 'mystery of godliness' (3:16)

*'Beyond all question, the mystery from which true godliness springs is great: He appeared in the flesh,  
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.*

How we ought to live comes out of an understanding of the gospel, which is all about Jesus and what he has done – built on six propositions concerning Jesus' incarnate and resurrected body.

Christians, and leaders in particular, are to stand firm by speaking, guarding and living the truth of the gospel.

Although the letter is addressed to Timothy, a leader, and co-worker with Paul, it comes with the authority of Christ, through the apostle Paul to the church. There are instructions for Timothy to obey with respect to himself, with respect to those who are teaching *other* teachings, and with respect to the brothers and sisters/the church. It speaks to the many people that make up the church - all people (2:1-4), men and women, older and younger (2:8-10. 5:1-2), overseers and

deacons (3:1-3), widows (5:3-16), elders (5:17-20), slaves (6:1-2) – finishing with the blessing of grace to ‘you all’ (6:17). This is a letter for us to consider deeply in understanding what it means for us to **live together as the family of God**.

There is a specific urge to prayer in chapter 2, which is a significant application of matching godliness to truth, so allow time to pray from things learnt each week, including prayer for local and global mission. There are also suggestions for prayer that come out of the passage in most of the studies.

### *Accessible commentaries*

- **1 & 2 Timothy for You** – Phillip D. Jensen
- **Message of 1 Timothy & Titus** - John Stott (Bible Speaks Today series)

*Notes for the term ahead.... this pattern allows for the study to precede the sermon in church.*

Week starting....	Study & Passage	Sermon & Church
Monday 22 July	Study 1 – 1 Tim 1:1-11	
Monday 29 July	Study 2 – 1 Tim 1:12-20	Moore College Sunday + 8am Congregation Lunch
Monday 5 August	Study 3 – 1 Tim 2:1-7	
Monday 12 August	Study 4 – 1 Tim 2:8-15	
Monday 19 August *		Nungalinya College Week
Monday 26 August	Study 5 – 1 Tim 3:1-16	Father’s Day
Monday 2 Sept	Study 6 – 1 Tim 4:1-16	
Monday 9 Sept	Study 7 – 1 Tim 5:1-16	
Monday 16 Sept	Study 8 – 1 Tim 5:17 – 6:2a	12-Tribes Lunches Event
Monday 23 Sept	Study 9 – 1 Tim 6:2b – 10	
Monday 30 Sept #	Study 10 – 1 Tim 6:11-21	

\* The mid-term break in study material is due to a special Sunday on the 25<sup>th</sup> August with a focus on Nungalinya College in the NT. We will have the current Principal, Ben Van Gelderen with us that week and so we will take a break from the 1 Timothy series.

# Assuming you’re following the dates in the table above, this study will fall in the school holidays so some groups may not be able to complete it.

# Study #1

## 1 Timothy 1:1-11

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### ***Study Focus:***

- *Timothy is to stop people who are teaching falsely, so that they would not lead others astray and so the gospel can be proclaimed without confusion or complication.*

### ***Daily Bible Readings:***

- Monday: Acts 20:13-24
- Tuesday: Acts 20:25-31
- Wednesday: Acts 20:32-38
- Thursday: 1 Tim 1:1-7
- Friday: 1 Tim 1:8-11

Spend some time reading through the overview at the start of this study book to get a feel for the big picture direction of Paul's letter to Timothy.

1. What things have helped you hold the course of the Christian life in the years you've been following Jesus? Share together.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. *Read 1 Timothy 1:1-11* and discuss any repeated phrases, words, or other things that stand out to you. Jot them down here...
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What do we learn about Paul and Timothy from these opening verses (v1-2)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. In your own words, describe Timothy's task and why this is so important (cf v3-7 & 18-20). What is the goal of this task?

5. Looking now at verses 6-11, what are some of the characteristics of those who have strayed from 'sound doctrine'? What did this look like in the context of the church in Ephesus?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  6. Thinking of more modern times, how have some leaders / churches / Christians 'departed' from sound biblical doctrine? How has their departure from truth come about?
    - a. How should we respond to such teaching and safeguard ourselves, and those we lead, from it?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  7. Paul acknowledges that the law is good if used properly. What does he mean by this, and how should Christians understand and apply the Old Testament law today?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  8. Reflecting on verses 1-11, how can you apply Paul's teaching to your own life? Are there areas where you need to refocus on love, a pure heart, a good conscience, or sincere faith?
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## PRAYER IDEAS & PRAYER POINTS

- Thank God for the gospel he entrusted to Paul and has also entrusted to us.
- Pray for churches all over the Northern Beaches – that they will hold firmly to sound doctrine that conforms to the gospel.
- Pray for our Newish Lunch this coming Sunday (28<sup>th</sup> July). Pray that newcomers to church will be connected in well as they join our family at St Faith's.

# Study #2

1 Timothy 1:12-20

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### **Study Focus:**

- *Paul shares details about his past to demonstrate God's grace, mercy and patience to Paul – the worst of sinners, and therefore to us as well!*

### **Daily Bible Readings:**

- Monday: Ephesians 1:1-10
- Tuesday: Ephesians 1:11-14
- Wednesday: Ephesians 1:15-23
- Thursday: 1 Timothy 1:12-15
- Friday: 1 Timothy 1:16-20

1. What is grace? How would you describe it to someone who didn't know what it was? Share some examples of ways you have been shown grace in the past.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. *Read 1 Timothy 1:12-20 and discuss any repeated phrases, words, or other things that stand out to you. Jot them down here...*

Paul starts this section by giving Timothy his personal reflection on the impact the gospel, entrusted to him by God (in v11), has had on his life so far.

### **Looking particularly at verses 12-17....**

3. What was Paul like before he met Jesus?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. How is God's grace demonstrated in Paul's life?

5. Why was Paul shown such mercy by God (v13-16)? Is ignorance and unbelief a basis for mercy?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. How does the “trustworthy saying” (v15) help us to understand the good news of the gospel?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What does God’s grace towards Paul teach us about God’s grace toward us?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Paul finishes this section with a short doxology (v17). What do we learn of God’s character from this verse?

**Looking now at verses 18-20....**Paul now returns to the main purpose of his letter – instructions to Timothy.

9. What do we learn about Timothy from these verses?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. Paul encourages Timothy to “fight the battle well” – what is the battle Timothy is to fight? How is he to do that?

11. Discuss what it might look like for us “fight the battle well, holding on to faith and a good conscience”.

12. Why do you think Paul mentions what has happened to Hymenaeus and Alexander?

13. What is the warning to us from these verses?

## PRAYER IDEAS & PRAYER POINTS

- Take some time quietly in your group to personally come before God in prayer for those you know who have rejected faith in Jesus.
- Spend some time praying together, thanking God for the grace He has shown you.
- In question 11 you shared about what it might look like for us to “fight the battle well” – now spend some time praying for one another in this.
- This Sunday is **‘Moore College Sunday’**. Give thanks for the work of Moore College in raising up more workers for the harvest field.

# Study #3

## 1 Timothy 2:1-7

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### ***Study Focus:***

- *Since God's concern is for the salvation of all people, and since he has provided one mediator for all people, the church is to pray for ALL people – including those in authority, so that the church will live in such a way that ALL people might see the power of the gospel at work and be saved.*

### ***Daily Bible Readings:***

- Monday: Ephesians 2:1-10
- Tuesday: Ephesians 2:11-18
- Wednesday: Ephesians 2:19-22
- Thursday: 1 Timothy 2:1-2
- Friday: 1 Timothy 2:3-7

1. Do you believe in the power of prayer? What sort of things do you pray about? Do you expect answers to your prayers? Give some examples.
  
  2. *Read 1 Timothy 2:1-7* and discuss any repeated phrases, words, or other things that stand out to you. Jot them down here...
  
  3. Considering the situation Timothy is facing with regard to false teachers, what does Paul urge Timothy to do first and foremost?
  
  4. Why should the church pray for "kings and all those in authority"?
  
  5. From verses 1-2, what is it that is pleasing to God our Saviour? Why are these things important and pleasing to God?
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6. What does God want for all people (v4)?

7. Discuss how living the way Paul urges in verse 2, might influence what God wants in verse 3-4.

8. What three truths does Paul declare in verses 5-6? How are they connected with God's desire in verse 4?

9. What does it mean for Jesus to be the one mediator between us and God? (see also Heb 9:15)

10. How is Jesus "the ransom for all people"?

11. What do we learn about Paul in verse 7 that helps us take his teaching seriously?

12. Does knowing God's desire for all people to be saved and the truths Paul reminds Timothy of here, have any impact on our prayers? Consider if you need to make any changes to "what" you pray for, considering what you have learnt from this passage.

### PRAYER IDEAS & PRAYER POINTS

- Spend some time in prayer for those in positions of authority in our world. Brainstorm who these people might be, then pray together for them.
- Pray for those in your circle of friends who don't yet trust in Jesus. Thank God for his desire to want them in his Kingdom and pray that God would give you wisdom in sharing the gospel with them.
- Pray for the work of our CMS Missionaries.



# Study #4

## 1 Timothy 2:8-15

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### *Study Focus:*

- *The church is to be full of godly men and women who pray and care for one another as they live for Jesus, serve God's family, and love God's Word.*

### *Daily Bible Readings:*

- Monday: Genesis 1
- Tuesday: Genesis 2
- Wednesday: Genesis 3
- Thursday: 1 Timothy 2:8-10
- Friday: 1 Timothy 2:11-15

Given that the verses we cover in this study can be controversial in our modern culture and have the potential to cause great hurt and disunity as different views are discussed, please take care of one another in love and grace as you discuss this passage of scripture. Consider the context below with regard to the city of Ephesus and Paul's instructions to Timothy.

1. Can men and women have equality with one another and at the same time fulfil different roles / have different responsibilities, whether that be in society, family or within the life of the church?
  2. **Read 1 Timothy 2:8-15** and discuss any repeated phrases, words, or other things that stand out to you. Jot them down here...
  3. What aspects of godliness are men being encouraged to work on (v8)? What does this mean?
    - a. In the context of the whole Bible, do you think this instruction would be important for all people, or just men?
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b. Discuss why Paul might have needed to single out the men in Ephesus for this.

4. What aspects of godliness are women being encouraged to work on in verses 9-11 (see also comment below)?

a. In the context of the whole Bible, do you think this instruction would be important for all people, or just women?

b. Discuss why Paul might have needed to single out the women in Ephesus for these matters.

The traditional wording of 'silence' is a legitimate translation of the word (*hēsychia*) but gives an overly-harsh impression. Paul is not imposing absolute silence or a 'no speaking' rule, for which there was another word (*sigao*) that he uses elsewhere.<sup>1</sup> Rather than implying that a learner should never ask a question or engage in discussion, '*hesychia*' carries the 'more normal sense of listening carefully and with respect, that is, of adopting a quiet demeanour rather than engaging in undisciplined or arrogant interventions in the classroom. In fact, Paul had used the word a little earlier to commend the living of 'peaceful and quiet lives' (2:2)?<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> D. Tidball, (*The Bible Speaks Today Series*), p251.

5. It is very difficult to understand with absolute certainty what Paul is trying to correct or achieve in verses 12-15. Let's take this verse by verse.

- a. Read verse 12 together. How might the context of the goddess Artemis help us understand the problems Paul is addressing here?

The goddess Artemis, also known as Diana, had a significant impact on the women of Ephesus. As a goddess of fertility, childbirth, and virginity, Artemis served as a powerful symbol for women, embodying both protection and empowerment. The Temple of Artemis, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, was not only a religious centre but also a place where women sought blessings for fertility, safe childbirth, and personal protection. The presence of priestesses in her temple provided women with prominent religious roles, contributing to a sense of agency and reverence within the community. Artemis's worship allowed women to engage in religious, social, and economic activities, making her an integral part of their spiritual and daily lives, and fostering a strong female presence in the religious and cultural fabric of Ephesus.

- b. Replace the words 'woman' for 'wife' and 'man' for 'husband' in verse 12 (the Greek words could be translated either way). How does this help us to further understand Paul's concerns? How might this apply in the life of church today?
- c. Why does Paul take Timothy back to Genesis 1-3 here? What timeless principle is there in this for Timothy, and for us today, with regard to the God given responsibilities for men and women?

- d. Thinking about Bible's teaching on humanity's sin (look particularly at Romans 5:12 - also written by the Apostle Paul), what can't Paul mean in verse 13-14? What could he mean? How does that build on what we've discussed in the previous questions?
- e. The promise of verse 15 seems a little odd. Before we come to this verse, read Genesis 3:14-19. In the midst of the curses, God gives a promise. What is it? How does this relate to verse 15?
6. Given that there will be differing opinions on the meaning and application of Paul's teaching in these verses in our church family, how can we best love and care for one another as we seek to apply this part of God's word?

## PRAYER IDEAS & PRAYER POINTS

- Thank God for the women and men who serve at St Faith's in unity together under Christ.
- Pray specifically for your areas of responsibility in ministry and life.
- Pray that we all seek to learn in humility and keep the gospel central in all we do and teach.



# Nungalinya College

*Empowering Indigenous Christians*

## Our Vision...

*God is reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:19).*

Nungalinya College will become a leading Indigenous Christian College. It will empower Indigenous Christians by providing education and employment pathways right for individuals, churches and communities from across Australia.

Nungalinya will be a place where Indigenous theological perspectives are developed. The College will include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages and encourage the expression of Indigenous cultures.

At Nungalinya College, Indigenous and non-Indigenous Christians will work together in partnership. We will grow the gifts and calling of Indigenous people. In God's time, the College will be fully staffed by competent Indigenous people. They will have the languages, cultural knowledge, qualifications and experience needed to perform their roles.

## The difference we make...

Each year, between 250-300 Indigenous students attend courses at Nungalinya. Incredibly, this amounts to people from over 100 communities and from over 30 distinct First Languages groups. Many of our students come from Uniting, Anglican and Catholic communities of the Northern Territory where missions were established in the mid-20th century. However, students come from all over Australia!

We are very proud that many church and mission agencies also support Nungalinya as they see, first hand, the impact quality training has in communities. These organisations include:

- Church Missionary Society (CMS)
- Bush Church Aid (BCA)
- Anglican Board of Mission (ABM)
- Bible Society of Australia
- Wycliffe Bible Translators Australia
- TEAR Australia

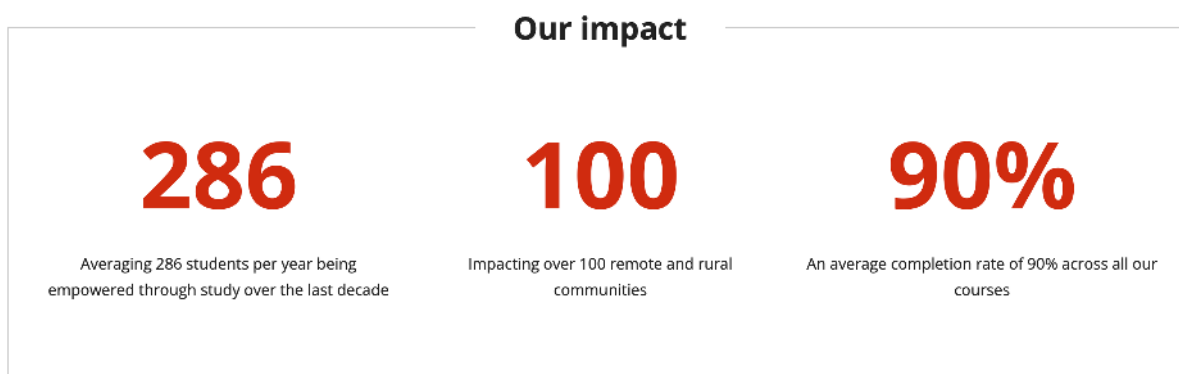
Due to our holistic, pastoral focus and the incorporation of Indigenous perspectives into our courses, our completion rates for units of courses are superb. However, even more importantly, we model at Nungalinya the profound truth that as brothers and sisters in Christ, love is the key to everything we do. As a community, we are blessed at Nungalinya with a daily, small taste of heaven:

*After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands (Revelation 9:7).*

## Empowering Indigenous Christians

*Nungalinya College is the Anglican, Uniting and Catholic training College for Indigenous Christians. From our shared foundation of faith in Jesus and reliance upon the Scriptures, we proclaim that it is God, through the work of the Holy Spirit that empowers His children to love Him and serve one another. The following statements and applications function as our philosophy of ministry.*

1. We believe that God, the Creator has worked in all times and cultures to draw people to Himself. His 'eternal **power** and character cannot be seen, but from the beginning of creation, God has shown what these are like by all he has made, so people have no excuse' (Romans 1: 20).
2. We believe that God showed His great love for all people through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The good news of forgiveness brings lasting change to lives and communities, as 'it is God's **powerful** way of saving all people who have faith' (Romans 1: 16).
3. We believe that we are called to help spread this good news, to our families, our clans and our communities. We study and learn of God's truth to share with others, but we also know that people come to 'have faith because of God's **power** and not because of human wisdom' (1 Corinthians 2: 5).
4. We believe that God empowers His people to serve Him and their communities. Through the Holy Spirit, He gives gifts to all His people and 'His **power** at work in us can do far more than we dare ask or imagine.' (Ephesians 3:20).
5. We believe that we must be brave to grow and use our gifts. We should work with God to 'make full use of the gift that God gave... the Spirit gives us **power**, love and self-control' (2 Timothy 1: 6-7).
6. We believe that we need to honestly depend on God and each other, acknowledging our failures and weaknesses. All glory then goes to God: 'my grace is all you need, my **power** is strongest when you are weak' (2 Corinthians 12:9).
7. We believe that we all need times of rest, refreshment and renewal. God gives these if we ask; 'He gives **power** to the faint... those who trust the LORD will find new strength' (Isaiah 40: 29, 31).







5. What similar patterns are seen in the qualifications for deacons and the women serving to the qualifications for overseers (v8-12)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. How does the way an overseer leads his family impact the way he might lead the church?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Why must an overseer not be a recent convert?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Timothy is having to deal with a number of false teachers in the church in Ephesus, whose behaviour, as well as their teaching, is super unhelpful for the church. Why is it important for church leaders to have a “good reputation with outsiders” (v7)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. How might these verses shape our expectations of those who serve as overseers of us at St Faith's? How can we encourage and pray for them?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. In verse 14-15, Paul gives us the aim of his letter to Timothy. What is it?

11. How does Paul describe the church (v15)? How does this description make you feel as a member of God's church?

12. Discuss together what the "mystery from which true godliness springs is great" is in verse 16 and what it means for us today.

### PRAYER IDEAS & PRAYER POINTS

- Thank God for the leaders who serve us at St Faith's each week. Pray for them in the matters discussed in this passage.
- Pray for all of God's people at St Faith's, that we would all conduct ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel and in doing so bring glory to God.
- Stop and pray for some of your friends and family who don't yet know Jesus. Consider together what the 'next steps' in your conversations with them.

# Study #6

1 Timothy 4:1-16

## Study Focus:

- *In light of the Spirit's warning of false teachers, Timothy is to watch both himself and the church, by pointing out false teaching, putting his hope in the living God, and living as an example of a true follower of Jesus, despite his young age.*

## Daily Bible Readings:

- Monday: Ephesians 4:1-13
- Tuesday: Ephesians 4:14-16
- Wednesday: Ephesians 4:17-32
- Thursday: 1 Timothy 4:1-10
- Friday: 1 Timothy 4:11-16

1. *What are some ways that people have tried to get closer to God?*
  
2. **Read 1 Timothy 4:1-16** and discuss any repeated phrases, words, or other things that stand out to you. Jot them down here...
  
3. What is the Spirit's warning in verse 1? (see also Paul speaking to the Ephesian elders in Acts 20:28-31). How can we discern when this might be happening in our own church community?
  
4. Concerning false teachers in verses 1-5...
  - a. What are the characteristics of the false teachers?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. What is the content of their false teaching? What is the underlying problem?

c. What is the danger of false teaching?

d. How do we hold into a good conscience? (4:2, 1:19)

5. In response to the false teachers, what is Timothy urged to do (6-10)? How might we cultivate these actions in our own lives, Community Group and church?
6. List out the priorities that Paul gives Timothy (v11-16). Why are these important for Timothy and why are they important for the church Timothy leads?
7. How can young believers set an example "in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity"? Why is this important for the church community? Share some examples.
8. In your own words, what do you think Paul means in verse 16 when he instructs Timothy to 'watch his own life and doctrine'?

9. What areas of 'life and doctrine' in your life are in danger of not 'matching'? Share together.

#### PRAYER IDEAS & PRAYER POINTS

- Turn the truths of this passage into points of:
  - o Thanksgiving and praise to God.
  - o Prayer for us as a church community
  - o Prayer for our engagement in local mission.



6. Why are there qualifications that restrict whether a widow is “put on the list”?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What do Paul’s instructions presume about the Christian faith (v4, 8 & 16)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. How can the way we act change people’s views about the gospel? Why does **how** we care for the vulnerable and undertake church discipline matter?

## PRAYER IDEAS & PRAYER POINTS

- Thank God for the family that makes up the church at Narrabeen.
- Pray for those among us who might be widows, widowers, or experience loneliness. Ask that God would give us hearts to love and care for all people at St Faith's.





5. Why is it important to have two or three witnesses before entertaining an accusation against an elder? How is this helpful both for the church leader and the church itself?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. How can favouritism (v21) undermine the gospel?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Slavery was a significant socio-economic reality in the 1<sup>st</sup> century. Although some slaves were treated harshly, others were treated well and became prominent members of the household. In either case, how was the gospel to transform a believing slave's attitude and why? (6:1-2)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Although this kind of slavery is different to modern work in a country like Australia, what aspects of godliness might be applied to our work situations from these instructions?

## PRAYER IDEAS & PRAYER POINTS

- Pray that our church leaders will be filled with wisdom and guidance as they shepherd the congregation.
- Thank God for the generosity of church members who contribute financially to enable the work of the church.
- Spend some time in personal reflection as to the use of your own finances in light of the Apostle Paul's teaching in 1 Timothy 5:18.

# Study #9

## 1 Timothy 6:2b-10

### **Study Focus:**

- *Timothy is to understand and recognise the corrupt ministry and motives of the false teachers, including a desire for financial gain. He is to imitate Paul instead and pursue godliness with contentment.*

### **Daily Bible Readings:**

- Monday: 1 Timothy 6:2b-5
- Tuesday: 1 Timothy 6:6-10
- Wednesday: Hebrews 13:1-6
- Thursday: Matthew 6:19-24
- Friday: Philippians 4:11-13

1. In our world today, and in our own experience, what sort of places do people look for contentment in life? Why?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. **Read 1 Timothy 6:2b-10** and discuss any repeated phrases, words, or other things that stand out to you. Jot them down here...
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. In these verses Paul returns to the issue of those who teach false doctrines (see also 1:3-7, 4:1-3). What are the characteristics of their false teaching?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What is the outcome of the rejecting sound doctrine?

5. Consider the qualifications of overseers and deacons that we looked at in chapter 3. How do the characteristics of these false teachers compare/contrast with those qualifications?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  6. In what ways might godliness be a 'means to gain' (v5)? (Note: the word Paul uses for *gain* is not necessarily always in a financial sense, despite the NIV translation).
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  7. In contrast, how does 'godliness with contentment' bring great gain?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  8. Paul's reflections on the false teacher who wants to get rich leads to his famous statement about the 'love of money'.
    - a. In what ways is the love of money dangerous for the Christian?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
    - b. What might be some signs that the love of money is a danger within our church?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
    - c. What might be some signs that the love of money is a danger for us personally?
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- d. How do we protect ourselves from these dangers? How does contentment play into this?

#### PRAYER IDEAS & PRAYER POINTS

- Thank God for such clear teaching on matters that are close to our heart and situation today.
- Ask God to forgive you for times that you've sought contentment in other areas of your life.
- Pray and ask God to protect us from temptation, foolish and harmful desires, and the danger of wandering from the faith.

# Study #10

## 1 Timothy 6:11-21

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**Study Focus:**

- Paul's final charge to Timothy – flee from sin, hold the faith, and pursue godliness as he waits for Jesus' return.

**Daily Bible Readings:**

- Monday: 1 Timothy 6:11-16
- Tuesday: 1 Timothy 6:17-19
- Wednesday: 1 Timothy 6:20-21
- Thursday: Philippians 3:12-14
- Friday: 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

1. Do you think of the Christian life as a fight or struggle? Why / Why not? How might thinking like this help us live for God in the here and now?
2. **Read 1 Timothy 6:11-21** and discuss any repeated phrases, words, or other things that stand out to you. Jot them down here...
3. What is Timothy told to flee from? What is he told to pursue?
4. Why is this exhortation from Paul so important for Timothy to take heed of?

5. Why is Timothy encouraged to pursue the virtues and behaviours in v11?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Discuss together what you think the “good fight of the faith” means?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Where does Paul encourage Timothy to focus his attention to help him “fight the good fight” (v12-16)? How can this help us today?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What is the good confession of Jesus? (see also John 18:33-37)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. How does Paul describe God in verses 15-16? Why does he remind Timothy of this here?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. Why is it so dangerous to be arrogant and put our hope in wealth? Where does Paul say we should put our hope? Why?



11. What has been entrusted to Timothy's care that he is to guard (v20)? Why does it matter?

12. The gospel entrusted to Timothy (by Paul) has been entrusted to us (in Scripture). How must we guard it:

- a. Individually?
- b. In our families?
- c. In our church?

13. Share with one another something that has stood out to you this term from our time in 1 Timothy. How has it helped you grow in your relationship with Jesus?

## PRAYER IDEAS & PRAYER POINTS

- Pray that God would give you a deep desire to pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness as instructed in 1 Timothy 6:11.
- Ask for strength and discernment to flee from sinful desires and temptations that lead away from God's path.
- Pray for the courage and perseverance to fight the good fight of faith, standing firm in the truth of the gospel.

# pedals!

## What's your next step in pedals!

Nome	Friend	Next Step



**Pray** for their salvation. "Please soften .....:s heart so they accept you as their saviour".



Pray that God gives you an **Evangelistic Opportunity**.  
"Please give me an opportunity to talk about You with ....."



**Do** they know you're a Christian? If not, **Drop** a Christian word in a sentence. "How was your weekend? .... I went to church...."  
Do they know any other Christians? If not, **WHO** would be a good person to introduce them to? **Who** might they get along with? **And HOW** would you introduce them? For a social, coffee, beer, BBQ...? **WHEN** could you arrange this?



**Ask.** Have you asked them what they believe? If they've had any church experiences?  
If it seems too soon for a spiritual convo, have you asked them what their interests are? Have you asked them **WHY** they like those interests? Have you asked them deeper questions? Have you shown a deeper and genuine interest in them?



**Listen.** Have you listened to their points of view? Their interests? Their struggles? Their loves? Their hates? Their beliefs? Their issues with Christianity?



**Share.** Have you shared with them why you're a Christian? What it means to be a Christian? The difference that Jesus has made in your life?



**Invite.** Have you invited them to hear more? What do you think would be best for them? Alpha? Read the Word 121? Read a book or listen to a podcast in their own time? Come to church?

## Our Missionaries



**Daniel and Olivia Webster**



**Chris and Karen Webb**



[www.stfaiths.church](http://www.stfaiths.church)