Timothy

“Honouring God”
First Mention (Acts 16:1)

• **What** - A Disciple
  - A learner and follower

• **Who** - Son of a certain Jewish woman that believed
  - Convinced that Jesus is the Messiah and author of eternal salvation
    **noted “But his father was Greek” - most likely no longer in the picture**

• **How** - Well spoken/reported of by the brethren at Lystra and Iconium
  - Had a good reputation
Conversion

• Fruit of gospel labours with Paul and Barnabas

• First missionary journey 7 years previous

• Are you born again?

• When was your conversion?

• This is too important to miss!

• Timothy was what he was because of the grace of God
Call

- Paul on second missionary journey arrives to Lystra accompanied by Silas meets Timothy and likes what he sees
- Paul wanted Timothy to go with him
- Vessel fit for the master’s use

- Compare with closing vs. of Acts 15 that detail how John Mark was not accepted as a fellow labourer
- Paul insisted that because of his “departing from them” and “not going with them to the work” they should not take him with them
Circumcision
• Discernment
  • Pain before Progress
  • Cut Family Ties

• Discipleship
  • Count the Cost

• Devotion
  • Supreme Love for Christ
  • No Price too Great

Circumcision
• Discernment
  • Paul tests Timothy right out of the gate to gauge how serious/dedicated he is
  • Circumcision would have been both physically painful
  • Would give evidence of breaking with family tradition

• Discipleship
  • Lk 14:25-27 “Whoever does not hate his father, mother and yes, his own life also, he cannot be my disciple”
  • Lk 14:33 “So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple”

• Devotion
  • When it comes to understanding discipleship, it is not about “hating and leaving” or “this vs. that”
  • It is about devotion of the heart
  • Spiritual significance of Timothy’s submission highlights this
  • No price too great when weighed against his supreme love for Christ
Character Development
Through Life Experience
Personal Responsibility

• 1Tim 4:13 “give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine”
  • Make it a priority

• 2Tim 1:6 “stir up the gift of God that is in you”
  • Don’t let it lie dormant and stagnant

• 2Tim 2:15 “study to shew yourself approved unto God, a workman who does not need to be ashamed”
  • Workman requires:
    • purpose, plan, proper tools & process

Reading your bible is not optional as a Christian
• Wither and die inside
• Left groping about for direction and purpose
• Nothing will add up
→ Where are you going to read tomorrow...write it down

Stop questioning “what your gift is”
• Start looking around for something to do...do it!

• Purpose - Begin with the end in mind
• Plan – How are you going to get there
• Proper Tools – Right tool for right job, get better with use (ex. loon call)
• Process – Start with foundation and build up
Model It - Genuine faith is like a life compass that governs all choices and decisions in life
• Practice what you preach
• Little souls are drinking in your example through the eye gate
• The influence you have is beyond what you can imagine
→ How can you model your faith tomorrow?...write it down

Teach It - Scripture is critical tool
• Does not apply only to parents
• Flock, SS, MNBH, TN, one on one

Do It - Will involve hard things i.e. discipline, responsibility, accountability. If done in love will yield the results of strong character
• IN LOVE!!!
• Purpose to develop not damage
• Mould not Manipulate
• Guide not Goad
• Results will be strong character
→ What will you do different tonight?...write it down
Mentor Responsibility

Mentor
• Bring along the next generation
• Someone with experience or more knowledge helps to guide a person with less experience or knowledge

Consistent
• No pattern – no progress

Sincere
• Open up and Build trust
• Potential for heart ache

Encourage
• Build not breakdown
• Create not criticize

WHO → Is there someone you know who you could intentionally mentor?
YOU → Are you feeling in need of someone to come alongside and build into your life...will you let them?

• 2Tim 1:13 “hold fast the pattern of sound words you have heard from me”
  • Be Consistent

• 2Tim 1:4 “greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears”
  • Be Sincere

• 1Tim 6:12 “fight the good fight of faith”
  • Be Encouraging
Character Demonstrated

In Life Experiences
Recognized – proved his character in a public way through his service
  • Devoted
  • Loyal
  • Humble

Witnessed
  • Proof is in the pudding
  • Matt 7:20 “By their fruits you will know them”

Example
  • Of good character
Public Trials

- 1Tim 1:6 “some having turned aside from the faith”
  - Backsliders
- 1Tim 1:19 “some having rejected the faith have suffered”
  - Shipwrecked
- 1Tim 4:1 “some will depart from the faith”
  - Departure
- 1Tim 6:10 “some have strayed from the faith”
  - Temptation
- 2Tim 2:18 “overthrow the faith of some”
  - False Doctrine
- 2Tim 3:8 “men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith”
  - False Teachers

- Timothy would have to face this and stand against it
- Timothy also at risk to fall victim to anyone of these
- Do you have a particular weakness from off this list of 6?...write it down
- Note down one safe guard to stand against...write it down
- Note down one safe guard to prevent...write it down
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>mentioned in 12 books of NT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Words</td>
<td>none recorded in the bible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young</td>
<td>1Tim 4:12 “let no man despise thy youth”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Involved</td>
<td>characterized by incessant missionary work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sickly</td>
<td>1 Tim 5:23 “use a little wine for your stomachs sake and your frequent illnesses”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jailed</td>
<td>Heb 13:23 “know that our brother Timothy has been set free”</td>
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<td>Title</td>
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| Disciple      | Acts 16:1 | • A follower who imitates their teacher  
• Puts learning into action  
Paul finds Timothy in Lystra and wants him to go on with them in the missionary journey |                                                                                        | Devotion     | • Devotion is what is in question for true discipleship  
• Don't try to "do more" to compensate  
• Love harder and the burden will feel light |
| Man of God    | 1Tim 6:11 | • God's special representative, one whom He has chosen and sent  
• Men employed for God and devoted to His honour  
Path of responsibility for spiritual leadership and church practice |                                                                                        | Faithful     | With a lifelong sense of urgency:  
• Flee – false teaching, love of money  
• Pursue – righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness |
| Ministry of God | 1Thes 3:2 | • Servant of Christ in preaching and teaching  
Paul/Silas are hindered by Satan from going so Timothy is sent to establish and encourage them in their faith |                                                                                        | Humble       | Minister of God will fulfill twofold role:  
• Establish – strengthen, build, set  
• Encourage – move forward, call to grow |
| Fellow Labourer | 1Thes 3:2 | • Work companion  
Commendation to Thessalonians |                                                                                        | Amiable      | Work together in unity |
| Bondservant   | Phil 1:1  | • Devoted to another to the disregard of one's own interest  
Greetings to saints at Philippi |                                                                                        | Loyal        | Unwavering in affection |
| Servant of the Lord | 2Tim 2:24 | • (same word as bondservant)  
Advice on conflict resolution |                                                                                        | Steadfastness| Gentleness goes a long way to “gain a brother” |
| Faithful Son  | 1Cor 4:17 | • Can be relied on  
Timothy sent to Corinth to remind them of Paul's ways in Christ |                                                                                        | Dependable   | • Can I be depended on? |
| Dearest Beloved Son | 2Tim 1:2 | • Worthy of love  
Greetings in letter from Paul to Timothy |                                                                                        | Affectionate | • Develop close bonds with those who you serve with |
| A True Son in the Faith | 1Tim 1:2 | • Lawfully begotten  
Greetings in letter from Paul to Timothy |                                                                                        | Authentic    | • Be genuine |
| Our Brother   | 2Cor 1:1  | • Fellow believer  
• Based on identity of origin of life  
Greetings with Paul to the church at Corinth |                                                                                        | Trustworthy  | • In Christ united by the bond of affection |