



PAULINE EPISTLES

MISSION 66 STUDY GUIDE

1 AND 2 CORINTHIANS, GALATIANS, EPHESIANS,
PHILIPPIANS, COLOSSIANS, 1 AND 2 THESSALONIANS,
1 AND 2 TIMOTHY TITUS AND PHILEMON



Mission 66

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HERE'S YOUR MISSION 66 STUDY GUIDE OF THE PAULINE EPISTLES!

Mission 66 brings the Bible to life each day as our hosts take you on a journey from Genesis to Revelation. You'll understand God's Word in a fresh way and grow in your intimacy with the Lord.

In this chapter-by-chapter audio commentary, John Mathews and Esther Sisulu come alongside you each day to open the Scriptures in a personal and applicable way. This Study Guide will help you follow each lesson, so that the teaching goes deeper into your heart and life.



John and Esther adapt the teaching of Brazilian Bible teacher Luiz Sayão, who originally taught the content in Portuguese. Known as Rota 66 (or Route 66) in Brazil, Mission 66 is a takeoff on the name of the famous U.S. highway. But, of course, it also refers to the 66 books of the Bible.



Mission 66 is a partnership between Dr. Sayão and TWR (Trans World Radio). Beginning in 2023, they launched an initiative to translate, produce, and distribute the program in the most-spoken languages in the world. A co-host team in each language will teach the content.

Projects are at various stages in English, Spanish, Mandarin, Bahasa Indonesian, German, Japanese, Arabic, Ukrainian, Italian, French and three other languages.

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1 CORINTHIANS 1

SUMMARY

Paul begins his letter to the Corinthians by thanking God for their faith and spiritual gifts and addressing divisions in the church. He emphasizes the importance of unity and the folly of boasting in human leaders. Paul stresses that the message of the cross, while seemingly foolish to the world, is the power of God for salvation. He encourages the Corinthians to rely on God's wisdom rather than human wisdom.

QUESTIONS

What is the main cause of division that Paul addresses in the Corinthian church?

What does Paul say about the message of the cross?

How does God view the wisdom of the world?

What should be the foundation of believers, according to Paul?

How does Paul contrast God's wisdom with human wisdom?

What does Paul say about the nature of spiritual discernment?

REFLECTION

Have you ever found the message of the cross to be a stumbling block or foolishness to others? How do you respond?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Consider how you can demonstrate reliance on God's wisdom in a situation you're currently facing, rather than leaning on your own understanding.

1 CORINTHIANS 2-3

SUMMARY

In these chapters, Paul continues to address the divisions and immaturity in the Corinthian church. He explains that true wisdom comes from God, not the world, and can only be understood through the Spirit. Paul urges the Corinthians to grow in faith and unity, emphasizing that all believers are fellow workers in God's service. He warns against boasting in human leaders and urges them to build their lives on the foundation of Christ.

QUESTIONS

What is the secret and hidden wisdom Paul speaks of in 1 Corinthians 2?

How does the Spirit help believers understand God's wisdom?

What are the characteristics of a spiritual person compared to a natural person?

Why is Paul critical of the Corinthians in Chapter 3?

What does Paul say about how believers should build upon the foundation of Christ?

What metaphor does Paul use to describe believers in 1 Corinthians 3?

REFLECTION

Consider your spiritual growth. In what areas do you feel you need to mature or develop further?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

What steps can you take this week to build upon the foundation of Christ in a way that reflects spiritual maturity and unity?

1 CORINTHIANS 4

SUMMARY

Paul addresses the Corinthians about the true nature of Christian leadership. Unlike worldly leaders who might seek power and privilege, Christian leaders are servants and stewards of God's mysteries. Paul emphasizes that leaders will be judged by God, not by human standards. The Corinthians were judging Paul and boasting about their own wisdom, but Paul uses sarcasm to highlight their pride and to teach humility. He reminds them that true apostles, like himself, face hardships for Christ's sake. Paul wants the Corinthians to imitate him as he imitates Christ, demonstrating a life of service and sacrifice.

QUESTIONS

What does Paul say about how leaders should be viewed in the church?

How does Paul say we should regard human judgment compared to God's judgment?

Why does Paul use sarcasm in his message to the Corinthians?

What hardships does Paul say true apostles endure?

What is Paul's relationship to the Corinthian church, and what does he urge them to do?

How does Paul contrast the kingdom of God with mere talk?

REFLECTION QUESTION

Do you think it's challenging to identify and admit our own pride, and why?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

When have you acted with pride? How can you show more humility and service as Paul suggests?

1 CORINTHIANS 5-6

SUMMARY

Paul addresses serious issues within the Corinthian church: sexual immorality and lawsuits among believers. He instructs the church to discipline a member involved in incest by expelling him, hoping for repentance. He emphasizes that the church must judge its members to maintain purity, contrasting this with how God judges those outside the church. Paul also criticizes believers taking each other to court over minor issues, advising them to settle disputes internally. He reminds them that those living in sin will not inherit God's kingdom, but believers have been cleansed and sanctified by Jesus.

QUESTIONS

What does Paul command the church to do with a member who is practicing sexual immorality?

How does Paul distinguish between judging those inside and outside the church?

What does Paul say about believers taking each other to court?

What list of wrongdoers does Paul say will not inherit the kingdom of God?

How are believers different from these wrongdoers, according to Paul?

What does Paul say about the body being a temple of the Holy Spirit?

REFLECTION QUESTION

Why do you think Paul emphasizes the importance of church discipline?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can you work toward resolving conflicts peacefully and biblically within your own relationships?

1 CORINTHIANS 7

SUMMARY

Paul addresses questions about marriage, singleness and divorce. He acknowledges that marriage helps avoid immorality but recognizes singleness as a gift that allows for undivided devotion to God. Paul permits marriage but advises that it comes with worldly troubles. He instructs married believers not to divorce, echoing Jesus' teaching, and advises those married to unbelievers to stay married, if possible, as it may lead to the salvation of the unbelieving spouse. Paul also advises everyone to remain in the life situation in which they were called, emphasizing faithfulness in one's current state.

QUESTIONS

What does Paul say about marriage and its relation to sexual immorality?

How does Paul view singleness compared to marriage?

What advice does Paul give to married couples considering divorce?

What should a believer do if married to an unbeliever?

How does Paul relate one's current life situation to their calling from God?

What is Paul's final advice regarding marriage and betrothal?

REFLECTION QUESTION

How does Paul's teaching on marriage and singleness challenge societal norms?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

In what ways can you apply Paul's advice about contentment in your life situation?

1 CORINTHIANS 8-9

SUMMARY

Paul discusses the issue of eating food offered to idols. He explains that knowledge can make one proud, but love builds up the church. Paul acknowledges that idols are nothing and encourages believers to eat freely unless it causes a weaker believer to stumble. In Chapter 9, Paul defends his apostleship and his choice not to demand support from the Corinthians, though he has the right to do so. He explains his flexible approach to ministry, becoming all things to all people to win some for Christ. Paul compares the Christian life to a race, encouraging self-discipline to obtain an imperishable crown.

QUESTIONS

What is Paul's advice about eating food offered to idols?

How does Paul differentiate between knowledge and love in the context of Christian freedom?

What rights does Paul say he has as an apostle?

How does Paul describe his approach to sharing the gospel with different people?

What metaphor does Paul use to describe the Christian life?

How does Paul practice self-discipline in his ministry?

REFLECTION QUESTION

Why do you think Paul chooses not to use his rights as an apostle when it comes to financial support?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can you practice self-discipline in your own life to better serve others and share the gospel?

1 CORINTHIANS 10

SUMMARY

Paul warns against idolatry by reminding the Corinthians of the Israelites' failures in the wilderness. He draws parallels between the Israelites' experiences and the Corinthians' situation, emphasizing the importance of learning from past mistakes. Paul instructs them to flee from idolatry and to be mindful of their actions, ensuring they do not cause others to stumble. He encourages believers to seek the good of others, to eat whatever is sold without questions for conscience's sake, and to do everything for the glory of God, avoiding offenses to both believers and nonbelievers.

QUESTIONS

What historical events does Paul use to warn the Corinthians about idolatry?

How does Paul explain the concept of being "under the cloud" and "passing through the sea"?

What are the consequences of idolatry, according to Paul?

How should Christians exercise their freedom in controversial matters?

What should guide a believer's actions, especially in matters of conscience?

What overarching principle does Paul provide for how Christians should live?

REFLECTION QUESTION

How do Paul's warnings about past mistakes apply to our lives today?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

In what ways can you ensure your actions glorify God and do not cause others to stumble?

1 CORINTHIANS 11

SUMMARY

In 1 Corinthians Chapter 11, Paul addresses proper behavior in church services, focusing on head coverings as a symbol of authority and the manner of celebrating the Lord's Supper. He emphasizes the importance of recognizing and respecting the hierarchical order established by God: Christ as the head of every man, man as the head of a woman, and God as the head of Christ. This hierarchy is not about superiority but about roles and functions. Paul also instructs the church on the proper attitude during communion, warning against divisiveness and improper conduct that disrespects the body and blood of Christ. The chapter serves as a reminder that worship practices are significant and observed by both God and the angels.

QUESTIONS

What is the main theme discussed in 1 Corinthians Chapter 11?

What does Paul say about the hierarchical order in the church and family?

What are the implications of a woman praying with an uncovered head?

Why should a woman have a symbol of authority on her head?

How did Paul describe proper behavior during communion?

What does Paul mean when he refers to discerning the body of Christ during communion?

REFLECTION

Reflect on the importance of understanding the cultural context of biblical instructions while also considering the timeless principles that can be applied to contemporary church practices.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Think about your own conduct during church services. Are there areas where you can improve to show greater honor and respect for the sacredness of worship?

1 CORINTHIANS 12

SUMMARY

1 Corinthians Chapter 12 discusses spiritual gifts, emphasizing that each believer is given at least one gift by the Holy Spirit for the common good of the church. Paul uses the analogy of a body with many parts to illustrate unity and diversity within the church. Each member has a unique role, and all are essential for the body to function properly. The chapter encourages believers to value all gifts and work together harmoniously, recognizing that every gift, whether tongues, prophecy, healing or others, comes from the same Spirit and is intended to build up the church.

QUESTIONS

What is the difference between talents and spiritual gifts?

What are some of the spiritual gifts listed by Paul?

How should spiritual gifts be used within the church?

What is the purpose of the analogy of the body with many parts?

Why is prophecy considered a greater gift than speaking in tongues?

How does Paul suggest maintaining order when using spiritual gifts in church?

REFLECTION

Consider how you can use your unique spiritual gifts to contribute to the unity and edification of your church community.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Identify your spiritual gifts and think about ways you can use them to serve others in your church or community.

1 CORINTHIANS 13

SUMMARY

Chapter 13 of 1 Corinthians, known as “The Love Chapter,” defines the nature of true love — agape love — and emphasizes its importance above all spiritual gifts. Paul explains that love is patient, kind, not envious or boastful, not arrogant or rude, does not insist on its own way, is not irritable or resentful, and rejoices with the truth. Love bears, believes, hopes and endures all things. This chapter teaches that without love, even the most impressive spiritual gifts are meaningless. Love never fails, and it is the greatest virtue we should aspire to as believers in Christ.

QUESTIONS

What type of love is Paul discussing in 1 Corinthians Chapter 13?
Why is love considered the greatest virtue?

How is love described in this chapter?

What does Paul say about the permanence of love compared to spiritual gifts?

How does love impact the use of spiritual gifts in the church?

Why does Paul emphasize the importance of love in the life of a believer?

REFLECTION

Reflect on the role of love in your own life and how it shapes your interactions with others, especially within the church.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Identify ways you can demonstrate agape love in your daily life and relationships.

1 CORINTHIANS 14

SUMMARY

In 1 Corinthians Chapter 14, Paul instructs the Corinthian church on the use of spiritual gifts, particularly tongues and prophecy, emphasizing the need for order in worship services. Speaking in tongues without interpretation does not benefit others, while prophecy edifies the church. Paul outlines guidelines for orderly worship, stating that everything should be done for the edification of the church. He also addresses the role of women in the church, emphasizing the importance of order and submission. The chapter underscores the principle that worship should be conducted in a manner that is understandable, edifying and orderly.

QUESTIONS

What guidelines does Paul give for speaking in tongues during church services?

How does Paul rank the gift of prophecy compared to speaking in tongues?

What is the purpose of spiritual gifts, according to 1 Corinthians 14?

Why does Paul emphasize the need for order in church services?

How should someone with the gift of prophecy use their gift in a church setting?

What does Paul say about the role of women in the church?

REFLECTION

Think about the importance of order and understanding in your own worship experiences and how they contribute to the edification of the church community.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Consider how you can contribute to an orderly and edifying worship experience in your own church or fellowship group.

1 CORINTHIANS 15

SUMMARY

1 Corinthians Chapter 15, also known as “The Resurrection Chapter,” presents the foundational truth of the Christian faith: the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Paul emphasizes the importance of the resurrection, stating that without it, the Christian faith is futile. He provides evidence of Christ’s resurrection by listing eyewitnesses, including himself. Paul also explains the order of the resurrection, with Christ as the first fruits, followed by those who belong to Him at His coming. The chapter provides hope and assurance of the believer’s future resurrection, an imperishable and glorified body, and ultimate victory over death through Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS

What is the significance of the resurrection of Christ, according to 1 Corinthians 15?

Who were some of the eyewitnesses to Christ’s resurrection?

What will happen to believers at the time of resurrection?

How does Paul describe the nature of the resurrected body?

What is the “mystery” Paul reveals in this chapter?

How should believers live in light of the resurrection?

REFLECTION

Reflect on how the reality of the resurrection influences your understanding of life, death and the hope of eternity.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Examine how the assurance of the resurrection impacts your daily life and choices, knowing that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

1 CORINTHIANS 16

SUMMARY

In 1 Corinthians 16, Paul concludes his letter with final instructions and encouragement. He discusses the collection for the saints, plans for travel, and offers personal greetings, emphasizing love and unity. Paul highlights his affection for the Corinthian church, despite its imperfections, and instructs them on the wise use of money and the importance of caring for the poor. He encourages watchfulness, perseverance and love in all actions, and recognizes individuals for their service. Paul's overarching message is to practice the love of God and support one another, both spiritually and materially.

QUESTIONS

What is the purpose of the collection Paul is organizing?

How does Paul suggest the Corinthians should collect the funds?

What does Paul mean by "if the Lord permits" regarding his travel plans?

Who is Timothy, and how should the Corinthians receive him?

What is the significance of the phrase "act like men, be strong"?

Why does Paul mention greeting each other with a holy kiss?

REFLECTION

Consider a time when you had to balance truth and love in a difficult situation. How did you manage it, and what was the outcome?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

What is one way you can apply Paul's teaching on generosity and helping others to your current life circumstances?

2 CORINTHIANS 1-2

SUMMARY

In 2 Corinthians 1-2, Paul explains his delay in visiting Corinth, stressing his sincerity and the challenges he faced. He discusses the comfort God provides in afflictions and how believers can comfort others. Paul also addresses the issue of a disciplined church member, advocating for forgiveness and restoration upon repentance. The theme is “In his own defense,” where Paul defends his apostleship, emphasizing the importance of sincerity, comfort and forgiveness in the Christian community.

QUESTIONS

What is the connection between Paul’s suffering and the comfort he can offer to others?

Why does Paul change his travel plans, and how does he defend this decision?

What is the “ministry of death” and the “ministry of the Spirit” that Paul contrasts?

Why were the Christians in Jerusalem in need of financial assistance?

What does Paul say about the judgment seat of Christ?

How does Paul describe the role of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers?

REFLECTION

Think of a time when you received comfort during a difficult period. How did that experience enable you to comfort someone else in their time of need?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can you demonstrate forgiveness and encouragement to someone in your community who has repented from a past mistake?

2 CORINTHIANS 3

SUMMARY

2 Corinthians 3 highlights the transformation brought by the new covenant of Christ. Paul contrasts the fading glory of the old covenant with the increasing glory of the new, which brings righteousness and eternal life. Believers are transformed into the image of Christ and experience freedom through the Spirit. The chapter emphasizes the enduring and transformative glory of God in the Christian experience.

Questions

What does Paul mean by calling the Corinthians a “letter of recommendation”?

How is the new covenant different from the old covenant written on stone tablets?

Why was Moses’ face shining, and what did the fading of that glory represent?

How does the Spirit bring freedom to believers?

What transformation occurs in believers as they look to Christ?

What is the significance of “the veil” mentioned in relation to the old covenant?

REFLECTION

Reflect on how the concept of freedom in Christ has impacted your personal spiritual journey.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Identify one area of your life in which you can embrace the transformative power of the Holy Spirit more fully.

2 CORINTHIANS 4-5

SUMMARY

In these chapters, Paul speaks of the hardships he endures for the gospel, comparing believers to “jars of clay” that contain a great treasure. Despite physical trials, the inward renewal and hope of eternal glory motivate him. Paul describes the Christian’s hope of an eternal, heavenly dwelling and the role of the Holy Spirit as a guarantee of this future. He emphasizes living to please God and the ministry of reconciliation entrusted to believers.

QUESTIONS

How does Paul describe the challenges he faces in his ministry?

What is the treasure Paul refers to, and why is it in “jars of clay”?

What does Paul mean by “the things that are unseen are eternal”?

How does Paul describe the believers’ future resurrection body?

What is the judgment seat of Christ, and what is its purpose?

How does Paul explain the concept of reconciliation through Christ?

REFLECTION

Have you ever felt like a “jar of clay”? How does recognizing your fragility help you rely on God’s power?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

What is one way you can participate in the ministry of reconciliation in your community?

2 CORINTHIANS 6-7

SUMMARY

In these chapters, Paul defends his ministry, recounting his sufferings and hardships as a testament to his dedication. He warns against being unequally yoked with unbelievers and calls for purity and separation from the world's corruption. Paul rejoices over the Corinthians' repentance resulting from his previous stern letter and commends their godly sorrow, which led to repentance and reconciliation.

QUESTIONS

What does Paul mean by not receiving God's grace in vain?

How does Paul describe the hardships he has faced for the gospel?

What is the warning about being "unequally yoked"?

How did the Corinthian church respond to Paul's previous letter?

What is the difference between godly sorrow and worldly sorrow?

How has the relationship between Paul and the Corinthian believers changed?

REFLECTION

Think about a situation where you experienced godly sorrow. How did it lead to positive changes in your life?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

What steps can you take to ensure you are not being unequally yoked in your personal relationships or business dealings?

2 CORINTHIANS 8-9

SUMMARY

Today's theme is "Both sides of the coin," which explores our attitude toward money and giving. Money isn't inherently good or bad; it's a tool that reflects the character of the person using it. Paul highlights the Macedonian churches as a prime example of generosity. Although they were poor, their joy and love inspired them to give beyond their means to help others. This teaches us that what we have is not truly ours; everything belongs to God. If we're trusted with little and manage it well, God may trust us with more. Paul also stresses that giving should be voluntary, cheerful and according to what one can afford. Ultimately, our giving is an expression of our worship and commitment to God.

QUESTIONS

What was the attitude of the Macedonian churches toward giving?

Why does Paul talk about money in these chapters?

What does Paul say about the amount one should give?

How does Paul describe Jesus in relation to giving?

What is the principle of sowing and reaping that Paul mentions?

What should be the motive behind giving, according to Paul?

REFLECTION

Why do you think Paul emphasizes the attitude behind giving more than the amount given?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can you apply the principle of cheerful giving in your own life, even if you only have a little to give?

2 CORINTHIANS 10-11

SUMMARY

2 Corinthians 10-11 finds Paul defending his apostolic authority and countering the false apostles' accusations. He emphasizes spiritual warfare, the power of prayer and the importance of standing firm in the Gospel. Paul also shares his past persecution of the church and his transformative encounter with Christ. The theme "In his own defense" underlines the gravity of safeguarding true doctrine and the responsibility of believers to discern truth from falsehood.

QUESTIONS

What does Paul mean by waging spiritual warfare?

How does Paul respond to criticisms about his apostleship?

Why does Paul share his personal encounter with Christ?

What does Paul say about the false apostles?

How does Paul view his sufferings for the gospel?

What is Paul's ultimate source of boasting?

REFLECTION

Have you ever faced a situation in which you needed to stand up for your beliefs? How did you handle it?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can you actively defend the truth of the gospel in your daily life?

2 CORINTHIANS 12-13

SUMMARY

In the concluding chapters of 2 Corinthians, Paul gives a “fair warning” about the dangers of false teachings and the need for self-examination among believers. He recounts his heavenly vision and discusses the purpose of his “thorn in the flesh.” Paul also prepares the Corinthians for his visit, promising correction if necessary. The theme “Fair Warning!” emphasizes the need for vigilance in faith and practice.

QUESTIONS

What does Paul reveal about his heavenly vision?

How did Paul’s “thorn in the flesh” benefit him spiritually?

What warning does Paul give about false apostles?

How does Paul instruct believers to examine their faith?

What is Paul’s intention for his upcoming visit to Corinth?

How does Paul conclude his letter to the Corinthians?

Reflection

How does understanding your weaknesses help you rely on God’s strength?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

What steps can you take to ensure your life aligns with the teachings of Christ?

GALATIANS 1

SUMMARY

Galatians 1 addresses the problem of false gospels and Paul's defense of the true gospel he received directly from Christ. He emphasizes that salvation comes through faith in Jesus alone, not adherence to the Law. Paul recounts his past life as a persecutor of the church and his transformation by God's grace. The theme "No Other Gospel" highlights the exclusivity of the gospel of Christ and the danger of distortions.

QUESTIONS

What is Paul's reaction to the Galatians turning to a different gospel?

How does Paul establish his authority as an apostle?

What is the true gospel, according to Paul?

How did Paul receive the gospel?

Why does Paul recount his former life in Judaism?

What does Paul say about seeking the approval of man versus the approval of God?

REFLECTION

Consider how your life would be different if you had never heard or believed the true gospel.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

In what ways can you share the true gospel with someone who may be following a false version?

GALATIANS 2

SUMMARY

Galatians 2 discusses Paul's confrontation with Peter over the issue of Jewish law and Gentile believers, underscoring the principle that faith, not law, justifies believers. He recounts his journey to Jerusalem and the acceptance of his ministry by the apostles. Paul's theme -- "Unintentional Hypocrisy" -- draws attention to the importance of consistency between belief and action.

QUESTIONS

Why did Paul visit Jerusalem, and who accompanied him?

What was the outcome of Paul's meeting with the influential leaders?

Why did Paul confront Peter, and what was the issue?

How is a person justified, according to Paul?

What does Paul mean by being "crucified with Christ"?

Why is it important to maintain the purity of the gospel?

REFLECTION

Have you ever found yourself acting hypocritically without intending to? How did you correct it?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can you ensure that your actions are in line with the truth of the gospel?

GALATIANS 3

SUMMARY

In Galatians 3, Paul explains that being right with God comes from faith, not following the law. He scolds the Galatians for thinking they need the law to be saved, reminding them that Abraham was made right by faith. The law shows us we're sinners and points us to Jesus, the true way to be saved. Paul says everyone who believes is part of Abraham's family, not just Jews.

QUESTIONS

What mistake were the Galatians making about faith and the law?

How did Abraham become right with God?

Why was the law given, according to Paul?

Who are the true children of Abraham?

What does Paul say about following the law for salvation?

How did Jesus free us from the curse of the law?

REFLECTION

Think about a time when you tried to earn something by working hard. How did it feel compared to getting a gift you didn't earn?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can you show others this week that being right with God is like getting an awesome gift, not something you work for?

GALATIANS 4

SUMMARY

Galatians 4 teaches us about being God's children. Paul uses a story to show the difference between being a slave to the law and a free child of God. He tells the Galatians they're now part of God's family because of faith, not the law. Paul also shares his own struggles and asks the Galatians to stay true to the faith they first believed.

QUESTIONS

What's the big idea in Galatians 4 about being a child of God?

How does Paul use the story of Sarah and Hagar?

What does it mean to be a child of the promise?

How does Paul feel about the Galatians' faith?

What is Paul's main point about freedom and the law?

What does Paul say about being persecuted for the truth?

REFLECTION

Have you ever felt like you had to follow a bunch of rules to be part of a group? How does it feel different knowing God accepts you because of faith?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Think of one way you can remind yourself or a friend this week that you're God's child because of faith, not because you're perfect or follow all the rules.

GALATIANS 5

SUMMARY

Galatians 5 tells us about living free in Christ instead of being trapped by rules. Paul warns against thinking things such as circumcision can save us. He talks about fighting against our selfish desires by following the Holy Spirit. The chapter ends with a list of good qualities, like love and joy, that come from the Holy Spirit's work in us.

QUESTIONS

What does Paul say about being saved by following the law?

What does it mean to be sealed with the Holy Spirit?

How are living by the flesh and the Spirit different?

What should we do with the freedom Christ gives us?

What are the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit?

How do we stay in step with the Spirit?

REFLECTION

Can you think of a time when you had to choose between doing something selfish or something kind? How did you decide?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Choose one "fruit of the Spirit" you want to grow in this week and think of a specific way you can practice it every day.

GALATIANS 6

SUMMARY

Galatians 6 advises us on how to live wisely as Christians. Paul says we should help others who mess up and share each other's problems. He also reminds us that we're responsible for our own actions. We're encouraged to be generous and patient because we'll get back the kindness we give out. Paul finishes by defending his teaching and focusing on Jesus' sacrifice for us.

QUESTIONS

What does it mean to bear one another's burdens?

What's the difference between helping others and personal responsibility?

Why is generosity important?

What are the marks of Jesus on Paul's body?

How should we boast, according to Paul?

How does Paul summarize the message to the Galatians?

REFLECTION

Have you ever helped someone and felt tired afterward? Why do you think it's still important to help?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Find a way to help someone this week, like doing a chore without being asked or listening when a friend needs to talk.

EPHESIANS 1

SUMMARY

Ephesians 1 says that God has always had a plan for us. Before the world began, He chose us to be part of His family through Jesus. Paul writes about how amazing it is that we're forgiven and have the Holy Spirit in us. He prays that the Ephesians will really understand how big God's love and power are.

QUESTIONS

What does "predestination" mean?

How does God choose us to be part of his family?

What is God's plan for us?

What does it mean to be a saint?

How is being sealed with the Holy Spirit different from "feeling" filled with him?

What is Paul's prayer for the Ephesians?

REFLECTION

When you think about being part of God's family, what feelings or questions come to mind?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Write a note or tell someone this week what it means to you to be chosen by God and part of his big family.

EPHESIANS 2

SUMMARY

In Ephesians Chapter 2, Paul contrasts the dismal state of humans in their sins with the remarkable transformation through God's grace. He explains that salvation is not earned by our deeds but is a gift from God to those who believe in Jesus Christ. Paul emphasizes that this salvation creates a new unity between Jews and Gentiles, breaking down the walls of division. Believers from all backgrounds are now one in Christ, and together they form a holy temple for God's Spirit.

QUESTIONS

What were we by nature, according to Ephesians 2:3?

How are we saved, as stated in Ephesians 2:8-9?

What is the purpose of good works, according to Ephesians 2:10?

What did Christ's blood achieve for those who were far off, according to Ephesians 2:13?

How has Christ created unity, as described in Ephesians 2:14-16?

What is the new structure being built, mentioned in Ephesians 2:21-22?

REFLECTION

Consider how the concept of grace challenges the idea of earning your way to favor.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can you demonstrate the unity that Christ has created among believers in your own community?

EPHESIANS 3

SUMMARY

Ephesians Chapter 3 reveals the mystery that Gentiles are included with Jews in God's plan of salvation. Paul explains that he was chosen to bring this good news to the Gentiles. He also prays that believers may comprehend the vastness of Christ's love and be filled with God's fullness. Paul closes the chapter with a doxology, praising God's ability to do more than we can imagine.

QUESTIONS

What mystery is Paul revealing in Ephesians 3:6?

How was Paul appointed, as mentioned in Ephesians 3:7-8?

What is Paul's prayer for the Ephesians in Ephesians 3:16-19?

To whom is God's wisdom being made known, according to Ephesians 3:10?

What does Paul desire for the Ephesians in terms of their spiritual strength, as stated in Ephesians 3:13?

What does the doxology in Ephesians 3:20-21 express about God?

REFLECTION

How does understanding the breadth of Christ's love impact your life?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

In what ways can you demonstrate God's love to those who may feel excluded or distant from the Christian community?

EPHESIANS 4

SUMMARY

Ephesians Chapter 4 encourages believers to live in a manner worthy of their calling, promoting unity and spiritual maturity. Gifts are given by Christ for the church's edification. Paul warns against living as nonbelievers and urges the putting off of the old self and the renewal of the mind. The chapter concludes with practical advice on living a life characterized by truth, righteous anger, hard work and kindness.

QUESTIONS

What is the calling mentioned in Ephesians 4:1?

What are the gifts Christ gave the church, as listed in Ephesians 4:11-12?

How should we renew our minds, according to Ephesians 4:23?

What should we put away, as instructed in Ephesians 4:31?

How are we to treat one another, based on Ephesians 4:32?

What should our speech be like, according to Ephesians 4:29?

REFLECTION

What does it mean to you to live a life “worthy of the calling”?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Identify one area in your life where you can put off your old self and practice the new self described in Ephesians 4.

EPHESIANS 5-6

SUMMARY

In Ephesians Chapters 5-6, Paul instructs believers on how to live wisely and righteously, emphasizing the importance of love, purity and mutual submission in relationships. He discusses the roles within a family and introduces the concept of spiritual warfare, detailing the armor of God necessary for standing firm against evil forces. Prayer is highlighted as a crucial component in the life of a believer.

QUESTIONS

How should we imitate God, as stated in Ephesians 5:1-2?

What is the relationship between Christ and the church compared to in Ephesians 5:22-33?

What does the armor of God consist of, according to Ephesians 6:10-18?

How should children relate to their parents, based on Ephesians 6:1-3?

What is the role of masters and servants, as described in Ephesians 6:5-9?

How are we to pray, according to Ephesians 6:18?

REFLECTION

Reflect on the concept of spiritual warfare and how it relates to your daily struggles.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Choose one piece of the armor of God to focus on this week and consider how you can actively use it in your spiritual life.

PHILIPPIANS 1

SUMMARY

Philippians Chapter 1 contains Paul's heartfelt greetings and expressions of joy despite his imprisonment. He thanks God for the Philippians' partnership in the gospel and is confident that God will complete His work in them. Paul's imprisonment advances the gospel, and he expresses his torn desire between living to serve Christ and dying to be with him. He urges the Philippians to live in a manner worthy of the gospel.

QUESTIONS

What does Paul thank the Philippians for in Philippians 1:3-5?

How does Paul view his imprisonment in relation to the gospel in Philippians 1:12-14?

What is Paul's sentiment about living and dying in Philippians 1:21?

How should the Philippians conduct themselves, as stated in Philippians 1:27?

What has been granted to the Philippians for the sake of Christ, according to Philippians 1:29?

What is Paul's prayer for the Philippians in Philippians 1:9-11?

REFLECTION

Think about the relationship between suffering and joy in your own spiritual journey.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Identify one way you can stand firm in your faith when faced with challenges this week.

PHILIPPIANS 2

SUMMARY

In **Philippians 2**, the theme of humility shines through as Jesus Christ exemplifies it by setting aside his divine privileges to serve humanity and obey God's will, even unto death. The Apostle Paul urges believers to adopt the same mindset, valuing others above themselves and working together in unity. Through Jesus' sacrifice, we learn the importance of humility and service in our Christian walk. This passage calls us to mirror Christ's humility in our own lives and relationships.

QUESTIONS

What does it mean when Paul says Jesus "emptied himself" in Verse 7?

Why is humility a significant virtue in Christianity, according to **Philippians 2**?

How does Paul suggest we should view and treat others in Verses 3-4?

Who are Timothy and Epaphroditus (mentioned later in the chapter)?

What does Paul mean when he says to "work out your own salvation" in Verse 12?

How does Paul's life and teaching reflect the humility of Christ?

REFLECTION

Reflect on a time when you witnessed true humility. How did it impact you and the situation?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Think of one way you can practice humility this week within your family, school or community.

PHILIPPIANS 3

SUMMARY

Philippians 3 highlights the theme of “no distractions,” with Paul urging believers to focus solely on Christ, not on earthly achievements or legalistic practices. He emphasizes the importance of pressing forward toward spiritual goals, leaving behind past accomplishments and hindrances. Paul warns against false teachers who distort the gospel and encourages steadfastness in faith, seeking the ultimate prize of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS

What does Paul consider as “loss” compared to knowing Christ in Verse 7?

How does Paul describe his own religious credentials in Verses 5-6?

What is the “goal” Paul is pressing toward in Verse 14?

Who are the “enemies of the cross” mentioned in Verse 18?

What does it mean to be “citizens of heaven” according to Verse 20?

How does Paul contrast his past life with his new life in Christ?

REFLECTION

Consider the things in your life that might be distractions from your faith. How can you refocus on what truly matters?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Identify one area where you can simplify your life to better pursue your spiritual goals.

PHILIPPIANS 4

SUMMARY

In Philippians 4, Paul concludes his letter with a call to rejoice and be content in all circumstances. He discusses the power of prayer and thanksgiving as a remedy for anxiety and the peace that comes from focusing on positive, godly thoughts. Paul also speaks about contentment, whether in abundance or need, and the strength he finds in Christ. He expresses gratitude for the Philippians' support and assures them of God's provision.

QUESTIONS

What does Paul mean by "rejoice in the Lord always" in Verse 4?

How does Paul suggest we should deal with anxiety in Verse 6?

What is the "peace of God" described in Verse 7?

In Verse 13, what does Paul say he can do through Christ?

What are the "things" Paul encourages believers to think about in Verse 8?

How does Paul describe his contentment in various situations in Verses 11-12?

REFLECTION

Think about what it means to have the "peace of God" in your life. How can you cultivate this peace?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Choose one of the "things" from Verse 8 to focus on this week to improve your thought life and outlook.

COLOSSIANS 1

SUMMARY

In Colossians 1, Paul expresses his commitment to the Colossians' spiritual growth, emphasizing Jesus' pre-eminence in all things. Christ's role in creation, his headship of the church, and his work of redemption are central themes. Paul stresses the completeness of believers in Christ and the transformative power of the gospel, which is not confined by geographical or cultural boundaries.

QUESTIONS

What is the "mystery" Paul refers to in Verses 26-27?

How does Paul describe Jesus' relationship to creation in Verses 15-17?

What does Paul mean by being "transferred to the kingdom of his beloved Son" in Verse 13?

How does Paul view his sufferings in relation to Christ's afflictions in Verse 24?

What does it mean to be "rooted and built up in him" as mentioned in Verse 7?

How does Paul describe the ultimate goal of his ministry in Verses 28-29?

REFLECTION

Reflect on the significance of Jesus being the "image of the invisible God" and what that means for your understanding of God.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Identify a way you can demonstrate being rooted in Christ in your daily life.

COLOSSIANS 2

SUMMARY

Colossians 2 warns against being swayed by deceptive teachings that are not centered on Christ. Paul emphasizes the fullness of deity in Jesus and the spiritual circumcision believers undergo through faith. He also addresses legalism, asceticism and the worship of angels, insisting that such practices detract from the simplicity and completeness of salvation through Christ alone.

QUESTIONS

How does Paul describe the Colossians' spiritual state before coming to faith in Christ in Verses 13-14?

What is the significance of being "rooted" and "built up" in Christ as mentioned in Verses 6-7?

Why does Paul warn against following human traditions and the "elemental spirits" in Verse 8?

What does Paul mean by saying Christ "disarmed the rulers and authorities" in Verse 15?

How does Paul address the issue of observing religious festivals and dietary laws in Verses 16-17?

What is the danger of false humility and worship of angels according to Verses 18-19?

REFLECTION

Reflect on any practices or beliefs you have encountered that may have seemed spiritual but were not centered on Christ.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Consider how you can deepen your roots in Christ to stand firm against deceptive teachings.

COLOSSIANS 3A

SUMMARY

Today, we're diving into Colossians 3, where our teacher, John Mathews, emphasizes the theme "A Whole New Self." We learn that as Christians, we're to live as if our sinful past is dead and focus on our new life in Christ. Paul urges the Colossians to set their hearts on heavenly things, not earthly ones. This chapter reminds us that our life is now hidden with Christ in God, and we await a glorious future with him. The message is clear: Put away old sinful behaviors and embrace virtues like compassion, kindness and patience, which reflect our new identity in Christ.

QUESTIONS

What does it mean to be "dead" to our sinful past, according to Colossians 3?

How are Christians instructed to live after accepting Christ into their lives?

What is the significance of setting our minds on things above?

What earthly behaviors are we to put to death, according to Paul?

How does Paul describe the new self in Christ?

What does unity in Christ mean for believers from different backgrounds?

REFLECTION

Think about the things you set your heart on daily. Are they more earthly or heavenly?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can you practically "put on" the virtues Paul lists, such as compassion and patience, in your day-to-day life?

COLOSSIANS CHAPTER 3B - 4

SUMMARY

In this session, John Mathews teaches us about “Family, Church and Society.” We explore Paul’s guidance for Christians in their homes, churches and communities. Respect, love and proper conduct are key in relationships and work. We’re encouraged to live a balanced life, honoring authority while serving others with sincerity. The theme is clear: Whether at home, church or work, we should strive to reflect Christ’s love and truth in all we do.

QUESTIONS

What roles does Paul outline for family members in Colossians 3:18-21?

How should employees conduct themselves, according to Colossians 3:22-25?

What does Paul mean by “the word of Christ dwell in you richly”?

How does Paul advise us to respond to authorities in Colossians 4:1?

What attitude should Christians have toward outsiders, as mentioned in Colossians 4:5-6?

Who are some of the individuals Paul mentions at the end of Colossians, and why are they important?

REFLECTION

Consider the balance between your roles at home, in church and in society. Are you living in a way that honors God in all these areas?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Identify one action you can take this week to better reflect Christ’s love in your family, church or workplace.

1 THESSALONIANS 1-2

SUMMARY

John Mathews brings us the theme “Hard-Won Victory” as he discusses 1 Thessalonians 1-2. Paul, Timothy and Silas share their gratitude for the Thessalonian church’s faith despite persecution. The message highlights the importance of steadfastness in the face of trials and how the Thessalonians’ example of faithfulness became known far and wide. Their acceptance of the gospel and transformation from idolatry to serving the true God is celebrated as a victory for the faith.

QUESTIONS

What is the “hard-won victory” that Paul speaks of in 1 Thessalonians?

How did the Thessalonians demonstrate their faith amid afflictions?

What was the role of the Holy Spirit in the Thessalonians’ acceptance of the gospel?

Why does Paul praise the Thessalonian church’s influence in Macedonia and Achaia?

How did Paul, Silas and Timothy conduct themselves among the Thessalonians, according to 1 Thessalonians 2?

What challenges did Paul and his companions face in bringing the gospel to the Thessalonians?

REFLECTION

How does knowing that other believers have persevered through hardships encourage you in your own walk of faith?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

What is one area in your life where you need to demonstrate greater faith and steadfastness?

1 THESSALONIANS 3-4

SUMMARY

John Mathews focuses on the “Rapture” in 1 Thessalonians 3-4. These chapters reassure believers that hardships are a part of God’s plan, and that faithfulness amid trials strengthens the church. The Rapture, a future event when believers will be caught up to meet the Lord, is a source of hope and encouragement. Christians are called to live holy lives, pleasing God and abiding by his moral standards, as we await Christ’s return.

QUESTIONS

How does Paul describe the relationship between the Thessalonians and himself?

What is the significance of the “Rapture” mentioned in 1 Thessalonians 4?

Why does Paul emphasize holiness and self-control?

What does it mean to live as “children of light”?

How should Christians conduct themselves in anticipation of the “Day of the Lord”?

What practical instructions does Paul give for living a life that pleases God?

REFLECTION

In what ways does the promise of the Rapture influence your daily life and choices?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Identify one change you can make this week to align your lifestyle more closely with the holiness to which God calls us.

1 THESSALONIANS 5

SUMMARY

John Mathews introduces the theme “Jesus Christ TWO; the Sequel!” in 1 Thessalonians 5. This chapter discusses the sudden and unexpected return of Christ, urging believers to live in readiness. We are to be vigilant, embodying faith, hope and love as we await the day of the Lord. The final exhortations encourage Christians to encourage one another, respect their leaders, and maintain a spirit of joy and prayer.

QUESTIONS

What is meant by “the day of the Lord” in 1 Thessalonians 5?

How should believers prepare for Christ’s return?

Why is it important to encourage and build each other up in faith?

What does Paul mean by “pray without ceasing”?

How can we ensure that we do not “quench the Spirit”?

What are the practical ways Paul suggests to live a life pleasing to God while awaiting Christ’s return?

REFLECTION

Reflect on how the anticipation of Christ’s return shapes your perspective on life’s challenges.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

What is one way you can encourage a fellow believer this week, as we all await Christ’s return?

2 THESSALONIANS 1

SUMMARY

In 2 Thessalonians Chapter 1, our teacher, John Mathews, discusses how Christians in Thessalonica faced tough challenges for their beliefs. Despite persecution, they stayed strong in faith, showing their dedication to God. Paul wrote to them, emphasizing that God sees their struggles and will bring justice. He encouraged them by saying their hardships have a purpose and that they'll be rewarded in heaven, while those who cause suffering will face God's judgment. Paul also warned about the consequences of ignoring God's message.

QUESTIONS

Who wrote the second letter to the Thessalonians?

What city was the church located in that Paul was addressing?

What were the Thessalonians enduring for their faith?

What does Paul say about the future of those causing persecution?

According to Paul, what is the purpose of the Thessalonians' suffering?

How does Paul suggest the Thessalonians should view their persecution?

REFLECTION

How does understanding that God sees and values our struggles change how we face challenges?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

What can I do to stay strong in my beliefs when I face difficulties or opposition?

2 THESSALONIANS 2

SUMMARY

In 2 Thessalonians Chapter 2, our teacher, John Mathews, addresses concerns about the return of Christ. Paul clarifies that before Jesus returns, there will be a rebellion, and the “man of lawlessness” will appear. Paul urges believers to stand firm in their faith and warns against being deceived by false signs. He reminds them that the law was made for the unrighteous, not the righteous, and that Christ’s return will bring justice.

QUESTIONS

What event did Paul say must happen before the return of Christ?

Who is the “man of lawlessness” mentioned by Paul?

What does Paul instruct believers to do in light of false teachings?

How does Paul describe the law in relation to the righteous and the unrighteous?

What will happen to the “man of lawlessness” when Christ returns?

How does Paul encourage the Thessalonians to live while waiting for Christ’s return?

REFLECTION

Why is it important to discern truth from deception in our spiritual lives?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can I guard myself against false teachings and stay true to my faith?

2 THESSALONIANS 3

SUMMARY

In 2 Thessalonians Chapter 3, our teacher, John Mathews, covers the topic of responsibility and work ethic among believers. Paul encourages the Thessalonian church to pray for the spread of the gospel and for protection from evil. He corrects the behavior of those living idly, urging them to work and contribute. Paul provides himself as an example of diligence and reminds the church to gently correct those who step out of line.

QUESTIONS

What does Paul ask the Thessalonians to pray for?

How did Paul and his companions behave to set an example for the Thessalonians?

What command does Paul give regarding those who are unwilling to work?

How should the church respond to members who do not obey the church's teachings?

What does Paul say about the Lord in relation to the church's protection?

How does Paul sign off his letter to the Thessalonians?

REFLECTION

What role does personal responsibility play in our spiritual lives and communities?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can I contribute to my community and set an example of Christian diligence?

1 TIMOTHY 1

SUMMARY

In 1 Timothy Chapter 1, our teacher, John Mathews, explores Paul's guidance to Timothy regarding false teachings. Paul emphasizes the importance of maintaining pure doctrine and a sincere faith. He also reflects on his past as a persecutor of Christians and celebrates the mercy and grace he received from Christ.

QUESTIONS

To whom was the first letter to Timothy addressed?

What was Timothy instructed to do in Ephesus?

What does Paul say about the law and its purpose?

How does Paul describe his own transformation?

What is the "trustworthy saying" Paul mentions?

Who are Hymenaeus and Alexander, and what happened to them?

REFLECTION

How does Paul's personal transformation inspire us in our own spiritual journeys?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

In what ways can I uphold the true teachings of my faith and avoid being led astray by false ideas?

1 TIMOTHY 2

SUMMARY

In 1 Timothy Chapter 2, our teacher, John Mathews, discusses the role of prayer and proper conduct in worship. Paul instructs men and women on how to conduct themselves during services, emphasizing modesty and decorum. He also explains the roles of men and women in the church, citing the creation order as a basis.

QUESTIONS

What types of prayers does Paul encourage?

For whom does Paul say believers should pray?

What is the role of Christ Jesus, according to Paul?

How should women present themselves in church?

What does Paul say about the teaching authority in the church?

How does Paul explain the salvation of women through childbearing?

REFLECTION

What can we learn from Paul's instructions about maintaining a respectful and holy environment during worship?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can I ensure that my behavior in church reflects reverence for God and consideration for others?

1 TIMOTHY 3

SUMMARY

In 1 Timothy Chapter 3, Paul instructs Timothy on choosing leaders for the church. He lists qualities necessary for overseers (like bishops or pastors) and deacons, emphasizing good character, family management and spiritual maturity. Overseers should be above reproach, faithful, self-controlled and hospitable. Deacons must also be dignified and truthful. Both must manage their families well, as the church is God's household. Paul concludes with the mystery of godliness about Christ's life, death, and ascension, urging Timothy to uphold these truths in church leadership.

QUESTIONS

What are the qualifications for someone aspiring to be an overseer in the church?

Why must overseers manage their own households well?

What should deacons be like, according to 1 Timothy 3?

Why can't new converts become overseers immediately?

How does Paul describe the mystery of godliness?

What does Paul hope to achieve by writing these instructions to Timothy?

REFLECTION

Reflect on the importance of leadership qualities in all areas of life, not just in church.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Consider how you can apply the qualities of good leadership mentioned by Paul in your own life, whether at school, home or in your community.

1 TIMOTHY 4

SUMMARY

1 Timothy Chapter 4 warns of false teachings and the importance of godliness. Paul predicts some will abandon the faith for deceitful teachings inspired by demons. He encourages Timothy to teach against these lies and to train for godliness, which is valuable in all aspects of life. Timothy is urged to set a good example, focus on Scripture and use his spiritual gifts. Paul reminds him that material gain isn't the goal; instead, godliness with contentment brings true wealth.

QUESTIONS

What will happen in later times, according to Paul?

Why is godliness important, according to this chapter?

How should Timothy and other believers treat lies and myths?

What advice does Paul give Timothy to maintain his ministry?

What is the “mystery of godliness” Paul refers to?

How does Paul contrast physical training with godliness?

REFLECTION

Think about the value of maintaining integrity in your beliefs and actions.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Identify a situation where you can demonstrate godliness through contentment and share how it impacts your perspective on life.

1 TIMOTHY 5

SUMMARY

Paul addresses how to care for church members in 1 Timothy 5. He advises respect for elders and outlines support for widows without families. Paul insists that relatives should care for their own, emphasizing godliness in family matters. He provides guidelines for enrolling widows for church support, focusing on those over 60 who have shown faithfulness and good works. Paul also discusses honoring church elders, especially those preaching and teaching, and how to handle accusations against them. He concludes by reminding believers to do good works and maintain purity.

Questions

How should Timothy interact with different age groups in the church?

What are the conditions for a widow to receive support from the church?

How should the church handle accusations against an elder?

What does Paul mean by “double honor” for certain elders?

What are the responsibilities of families toward their widowed members?

How does Paul instruct Timothy to maintain purity in his ministry?

REFLECTION

Consider the role of family and community in supporting those in need.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can you show respect and care for different generations within your own community or family?

1 TIMOTHY 6

SUMMARY

In Chapter 6, Paul discusses the dangers of greed and the right attitude toward wealth. He advises slaves to respect their masters, and those with Christian masters should serve them well. False teachers are criticized for thinking godliness is a way to gain wealth. Paul emphasizes contentment and warns against the desire to be rich, which leads to many evils. He instructs the rich to be humble and to trust in God, not wealth. Paul concludes by charging Timothy to guard his faith against false teachings and to pursue righteousness.

QUESTIONS

What should workers' attitudes be toward their employers, according to Paul?

How does Paul describe the love of money?

What should the rich in this present age do with their wealth?

What is Timothy charged to guard against?

What is the role of contentment in a Christian's life?

How is godliness with contentment described as gain?

Reflection

Think about how the pursuit of wealth can impact one's spiritual life.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Identify ways you can cultivate contentment in your life and manage your resources responsibly.

2 TIMOTHY 1-2

SUMMARY

Paul encourages Timothy to be strong in grace and to endure hardships like a good soldier of Christ. He reminds him of his heritage of faith and the gift of God within him. Paul also asks Timothy to keep the faith, guard the gospel, and remain steadfast despite suffering and abandonment. He uses analogies of soldiers, athletes and farmers to describe the dedication required for faithful service. Paul warns against idle talk and instructs Timothy to correctly handle the word of truth, avoiding arguments over words.

QUESTIONS

How does Paul encourage Timothy to deal with suffering for the gospel?

What three analogies does Paul use to describe a Christian's dedication to the faith?

Why is it important for Timothy to handle the word of truth correctly?

What does Paul mean by saying God has not given us a spirit of fear?

How should Timothy respond to those who oppose him?

What does Paul remind Timothy about his faith heritage?

REFLECTION

Reflect on the role that perseverance and discipline play in your spiritual life.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Consider how you can be a "good soldier" for Christ in your daily life, showing dedication and faithfulness.

2 TIMOTHY 3

SUMMARY

Paul warns Timothy about the tough times ahead, especially as society breaks down. People will be selfish, disobedient and turn away from God. Leaders must avoid these behaviors and stay true to the teachings of Jesus. Paul also emphasizes the importance of the Bible, which is inspired by God and useful for teaching and guiding Christians.

QUESTIONS

What signs did Paul say would mark the last days?

How should Christians respond to societal breakdown?

What does Paul instruct about dealing with false teachers?

Why is the Bible important, according to Paul?

How can Christians maintain their faith amid challenges?

What assurance does Paul give about God's protection?

REFLECTION

Think about how you can stay committed to your faith even when society may not support it.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Consider ways you can use the Bible as a guide in your daily decisions and actions.

2 TIMOTHY 4

SUMMARY

Paul encourages Timothy to keep preaching the truth and to be ready to share his faith. Despite his impending death, Paul is content, knowing he has fought the good fight, and a crown awaits him in heaven. He warns Timothy about people who will reject truth and provides final instructions and greetings.

QUESTIONS

What does Paul mean by preaching “in season and out of season”?

Why do people sometimes reject the Bible’s teachings?

What is the “crown of righteousness” Paul mentions?

How did Paul feel about his approaching death?

How does Paul suggest dealing with those who oppose the truth?

What should someone do to ensure they are saved?

REFLECTION

Reflect on what it means to live a life that’s ready for Christ’s return.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can you be more proactive in sharing your faith with others?

TITUS 1

SUMMARY

Paul instructs Titus on leading the church in Crete. Leaders must be blameless, faithful and strong against false teachings. Paul denounces the corrupt behavior of some Cretans and emphasizes the need for church members to act truthfully and uphold sound doctrine.

QUESTIONS

Who was Titus, and what was his role in Crete?

What qualifications did Paul list for church leaders?

How did Paul describe the people of Crete?

What does Paul mean by “To the pure, all things are pure”?

How should truth be balanced with love in confronting false doctrines?

What indicates false teachings that should be avoided?

REFLECTION

Consider the importance of having church leaders with integrity.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

How can you ensure your actions match the teachings of your faith?

TITUS 2-3

SUMMARY

Paul tells Titus to teach sound doctrine and for Christians to live virtuously, setting a good example for others. He discusses the roles of older men and women, young people and bondservants in modeling Christian behavior. Paul also addresses the second coming of Christ and how our actions should demonstrate what we believe.

QUESTIONS

What roles do older members have in the church, according to Paul?

How should younger church members behave?

What is the “blessed hope” Paul refers to?

How should Christians relate to authorities and others?

What should be done about those causing division in the church?

What can be inferred about Paul’s journeys after his release from prison?

REFLECTION

Think about how you can influence others through your actions.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Identify one area in your life where you can better demonstrate your faith through your actions.

PHILEMON

SUMMARY

Paul writes to Philemon, a fellow Christian, to address the situation with Onesimus, a slave who ran away but has since converted to Christianity. Paul appeals to Philemon to accept Onesimus back not as a slave, but as a brother in Christ. He emphasizes the transformative power of the gospel and equality in Christ, even in an unjust society.

QUESTIONS

What is the main theme of Paul's letter to Philemon?

Why was Paul imprisoned, and how does he view his situation?

Who is Onesimus, and what is Paul's request concerning him?

What does Paul offer to do if Onesimus has wronged Philemon?

How does Paul expect Philemon to react to Onesimus' return?

What does Paul's approach to Philemon and Onesimus teach us about Christian values?

REFLECTION

Consider how the gospel can transform relationships and societal structures.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Think about a situation where you can promote equality and forgiveness in your community. How can you apply the lessons from Philemon to that situation?

The background is a colorful, stylized illustration of a tropical garden. In the foreground, there are large green leaves and pink flowers. In the middle ground, a person with long brown hair is shown in profile, looking towards the right. Behind them is a large, ornate tree with a brown trunk and green leaves. To the right, a person is standing on a hill, looking out over a landscape. The sky is a warm orange and yellow, with stylized clouds. A large play button icon is integrated into the letter 'O' of the word 'MOTION'.

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1 CORINTHIANS 1 | ANSWERS

Allegiance to different human leaders (Paul, Apollos, Cephas, Christ).

It is folly to those perishing but the power of God to those being saved.

The world's wisdom is foolishness with God.

Jesus Christ is the foundation on which believers should build.

God's wisdom is revealed through the Spirit, while human wisdom cannot comprehend God's thoughts.

The natural person cannot understand spiritual things; they are discerned spiritually.

1 CORINTHIANS 2-3 | ANSWERS

The wisdom of God is Jesus Christ, crucified and risen for our salvation.

The Spirit searches everything, revealing God's wisdom to believers.

The spiritual person discerns all things through the Spirit, while the natural person does not accept spiritual truths.

He criticizes their spiritual immaturity and division, indicating they are still worldly.

Believers should build with care, using materials that will endure God's testing.

Believers are God's field, God's building, indicating they are part of his work.

1 CORINTHIANS 4 | ANSWERS

Leaders should be seen as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries.

Human judgment is insignificant compared to God's judgment.

To highlight the Corinthians' pride and teach humility.

Apostles face hardships, ridicule and persecution.

Paul is their spiritual father; he urges them to imitate him.

The kingdom of God is about power, not just talk.

1 CORINTHIANS 5-6 | ANSWERS

Expel the member to lead them to repentance.

Believers are to judge those within the church, while God judges those outside.

Believers should settle disputes internally rather than going to court.

The unrighteous, including various sinners, will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Believers were washed, sanctified and justified in Jesus Christ.

The body is a temple of the Holy Spirit and should be used to glorify God.

1 CORINTHIANS 7 | ANSWERS

Marriage helps avoid sexual immorality, but each person should maintain self-control.

Singleness allows for undivided devotion to the Lord, while marriage has worldly concerns.

Married couples should not divorce, to uphold the sanctity of marriage.

Stay married if the unbelieving spouse consents to live with the believer. Remain in the life condition one was in when called by God.

Marrying is good, but staying single may allow for better service to the Lord.

1 CORINTHIANS 8-9 | ANSWERS

Avoid eating food offered to idols if it causes a weaker believer to stumble.

Knowledge can lead to pride, but love is constructive and edifying.

As an apostle, Paul has rights to support from the church.

Paul adapts his approach to effectively share the gospel with different groups.

The Christian life is like a race that requires discipline to obtain the reward.

Paul practices self-discipline to avoid disqualification in his ministry.

1 CORINTHIANS 10 | ANSWERS

Paul uses Israel's history to illustrate the consequences of desiring evil and idolatry.

Being “under the cloud” and “passing through the sea” refers to the Israelites' protection and deliverance by God.

Idolatry leads to other sins and provokes God's jealousy.

Christians should avoid practices that are not edifying or constructive.

Believers should aim for actions that are beneficial to others and follow their conscience.

Everything a Christian does should be for the glory of God, without causing offense.

1 CORINTHIANS 11 | ANSWERS

The main theme is proper behavior and order during church services, particularly concerning head coverings and the Lord's Supper.

Christ is the head of every man, man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ. It's about roles, not superiority.

It would be a symbol of disrespect and possibly indicative of moral disorder in the cultural context of Corinth.

Because of the angels, indicating that worship practices are observed by heavenly beings and should show respect for authority.

Believers should partake in the Lord's Supper with reverence, unity and self-examination, avoiding any behavior that dishonors Christ's sacrifice.

It means recognizing the significance of the bread and wine as the body and blood of Christ and participating in a manner that reflects their sacredness.

1 CORINTHIANS 12 | ANSWERS

Talents are natural abilities that can be used by anyone, while spiritual gifts are special abilities given by the Holy Spirit to believers for the edification of the church.

Wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discernment of spirits, tongues and interpretation of tongues.

To edify and build up the church, not for personal satisfaction or attention.

To show that just as each part of the human body has a role, every member of the church has a unique function that is important for the health and growth of the church.

Because prophecy edifies, exhorts and comforts the entire church, while speaking in tongues only edifies the speaker unless interpreted.

By ensuring that gifts are used in an orderly manner, with only a few speaking in tongues and having an interpreter present and allowing prophets to speak one at a time.

1 CORINTHIANS 13 | ANSWERS

Agape love, the unconditional love that is selfless, sacrificial and kind.

Because love is the foundation of all virtues and without it, even the greatest spiritual gifts are worthless.

Love is patient, kind, does not envy or boast, is not arrogant or rude, does not insist on its own way, is not irritable or resentful, does not rejoice at wrongdoing and rejoices with the truth.

Love never ends, while prophecies, tongues and knowledge will pass away. Love guides the proper use of spiritual gifts, ensuring they are used to edify the church and not for personal gain or attention.

Because love is the essence of God's nature and should be the driving force behind all actions and attitudes of a believer.

1 CORINTHIANS 14 | ANSWERS

If anyone speaks in tongues, there should be no more than two or three speakers, each in turn, with someone interpreting. If there is no interpreter, they should remain silent in church.

Prophecy is ranked higher because it edifies, exhorts and comforts the entire church, whereas tongues without interpretation only benefit the speaker.

The purpose is to build up the church, not to showcase personal spirituality or to cause confusion.

Because God is not a God of confusion but of peace, and worship should be understandable and edifying for all participants.

They should speak in an orderly manner, with only a few speaking and the others weighing what is said, for the encouragement and learning of the church.

Women should maintain silence during the services and not speak out disruptively; they are encouraged to learn in submission and address their questions at home.

1 CORINTHIANS 15 | ANSWERS

The resurrection of Christ is the cornerstone of the Christian faith, validating Jesus' sacrifice and ensuring believers' future resurrection.

Eyewitnesses included Cephas (Peter), the 12 apostles, more than 500 brothers at once, James, all the apostles, and Paul himself.

Believers will be raised imperishable, receiving glorified bodies fit for eternal life.

The resurrected body will be imperishable, glorious, powerful and spiritual, contrasting with the natural, perishable body.

The mystery is that not all will sleep (die), but all will be changed in a moment when the last trumpet sounds, and the dead will be raised imperishable.

Believers should be steadfast, immovable and always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that their efforts are meaningful and impactful because of the resurrection.

1 CORINTHIANS 16 | ANSWERS

To provide monetary assistance to the poor church in Jerusalem.

Set aside funds weekly, so there is no need to collect money when Paul arrives.

Acknowledging that human plans are subject to God's will.

A young capable pastor deserving respect and assistance.

Encouragement to be courageous and strong in faith while acting in love.

A cultural sign of affection and unity among believers.

2 CORINTHIANS 1-2 | ANSWERS

Paul's sufferings allow him to comfort others with the comfort he receives from God.

To avoid causing further pain and to give time for his previous letter to have an effect.

The Law highlights sin and brings death, while the Spirit brings righteousness and life.

They were experiencing a famine and persecution.

It is where believers will be evaluated for their actions after salvation.

As a guarantee of believers' salvation and a helper in their transformation.

2 CORINTHIANS 3 | ANSWERS

The changed lives of Corinthian believers are proof of Paul's apostolic authority.

The new covenant is of the Spirit and brings righteousness; the old is of the letter and brings death.

Moses' face reflected God's glory, but the glory faded, symbolizing the end of the old covenant.

The Spirit frees us from the Law and enables us to approach God.

They are transformed into Christ's likeness, from one degree of glory to another.

The veil represents the inability to understand God's plan until turning to Christ.

2 CORINTHIANS 4-5 | ANSWERS

As intense and relentless yet not leading to despair.

The gospel's power in fragile, human messengers.

Earthly troubles are temporary, but spiritual realities are eternal.

As an eternal, imperishable body from God.

It is for the evaluation of believers' deeds, not for salvation.

It's the message that through Christ, people can be restored to a right relationship with God.

2 CORINTHIANS 8-9 | ANSWERS

The Macedonian churches gave generously despite their poverty because they were overflowing with joy and had a wealth of generosity.

Paul notes the Corinthians had a readiness to give and had previously shown a desire to participate in the collection for the saints.

Giving is described as an act of grace, not as a command, but as a proof of love and generosity mirroring Christ's sacrifice.

The giver should give as decided in their heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Cheerful givers are blessed by God with all grace, sufficiency in all things and the ability to abound in every good work.

Paul ensures proper handling by sending trusted and earnest brothers to carry the collection, aiming for honorable conduct in God's sight and man's.

2 CORINTHIANS 10-11 | ANSWERS

Paul refers to using spiritual weapons with divine power to destroy strongholds and arguments against God, taking thoughts captive to obey Christ.

He responds by highlighting the spiritual nature of his apostolic authority and the divine power behind his ministry.

To validate his apostleship and the divine origin of the gospel he preached.

They are deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ, serving their own interests.

Paul views his sufferings as a testament to his dedication to the gospel and as a means to demonstrate his true apostleship.

Paul boasts only in the Lord and in the things that show his weakness, to highlight God's power working through him.

2 CORINTHIANS 12-13 | ANSWERS

Paul was caught up to the third heaven and heard inexpressible things that no one is permitted to tell.

It kept him humble and reliant on God's grace, teaching him that God's power is made perfect in weakness.

Paul warns that false apostles disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, but their end will be in accordance with their actions.

Believers should test themselves to ensure Christ is in them unless they fail the test of true faith.

Paul's intention is to correct any wrongdoing and ensure the Corinthians are following true doctrine.

He concludes with an exhortation to rejoice, aim for restoration, comfort each other, live in peace, and a benediction of grace, love and fellowship.

GALATIANS 1 | ANSWERS

Paul is astonished and rebukes the Galatians for turning to a different gospel, which is no gospel at all.

He is an apostle sent not by humans but by Jesus Christ and God the Father.

The true gospel is salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, not by works of the Law.

Paul received the gospel directly through a revelation from Jesus Christ.

To show his radical transformation from a persecutor of the church to an apostle of Christ.

Paul seeks God's approval, not man's, and his aim is to serve Christ, not to please people.

GALATIANS 2 | ANSWERS

Paul visited Jerusalem with Barnabas and Titus to discuss the gospel he preached to the Gentiles and to ensure he was not working in vain.

The influential leaders, seeing the grace given to Paul, gave him and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship to go to the Gentiles.

Paul confronted Peter in Antioch because he was acting hypocritically by withdrawing from eating with Gentiles due to fear of the circumcision party.

A person is justified not by the works of the Law but through faith in Jesus Christ.

It means that Paul's old self has been crucified with Christ, and he now lives by faith in Christ.

It is important to preserve the purity of the gospel to ensure that salvation remains by faith in Christ alone, not by adhering to the Law.

GALATIANS 3 | ANSWERS

They thought they needed to follow the Jewish laws to be saved.

By believing God, which was counted as righteousness.

To show us our sins and point us to Christ for salvation.

Anyone who has faith in Jesus, just like Abraham did.

No one can be justified by it; righteousness comes from faith.

By taking the curse upon himself on the cross for us.

GALATIANS 4 | ANSWERS

Freedom in Christ as God's children, not slaves to the law.

As an allegory for two covenants, freedom in Christ (Sarah) vs. slavery under the law (Hagar).

Believers in Christ, like Isaac, born according to God's promise.

He cares deeply and is perplexed by their turning away from the truth.

Christ frees us from the law; we shouldn't go back to it.

The truth of the gospel is worth suffering for.

GALATIANS 5 | ANSWERS

Circumcision and the law cannot save; only faith in Christ does.

It's a sign that we belong to God and have his Spirit.

The flesh leads to sin; the Spirit leads to righteous living.

To love and serve others, not to indulge in sin.

Flesh sin and selfishness; Spirit love, joy, peace, etc.

By living according to the Spirit's guidance, not fleshly desires.

GALATIANS 6 | ANSWERS

Helping those struggling with sin in a gentle way.

We help others, but we're each responsible for our actions.

Because giving generously results in blessings for us, too.

Scars from suffering for the gospel.

Only in Christ's work on the cross, not in our own efforts.

Stick to the true gospel of faith in Christ.

EPHESIANS 1 | ANSWERS

God planned our salvation before the world was made.

Through Jesus' work, making us his adopted children.

To unite everything under Christ.

A believer in Christ, not based on works or miracles.

Being sealed is a permanent mark of God's ownership; being filled can be a moment of empowerment.

To understand the hope, inheritance and power in Christ.

EPHESIANS 2 | ANSWERS

By nature, we were children of wrath.

We are saved by grace through faith, not by works.

Good works are what we are created to do in Christ Jesus.

Christ's blood brought those who were far off near to God.

Christ created unity by breaking down the wall of hostility between Jews and Gentiles.

The new structure is a holy temple in the Lord, a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

EPHESIANS 3 | ANSWERS

The mystery is that Gentiles are fellow heirs with Jews in Christ.

Paul was made a minister by God's grace.

Paul prays that believers may be strengthened with power and grasp the love of Christ.

God's wisdom is made known to rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

Paul desires that the Ephesians be strong and not lose heart.

The doxology praises God's ability to do exceedingly abundantly above all we ask or think.

EPHESIANS 4 | ANSWERS

The calling is to live a life worthy of the calling to unity and maturity in Christ.

Christ gave apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds and teachers.

We should renew our minds by putting on the new self -- created to be like God.

We should put away bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, slander and malice.

We are to be kind, tender-hearted and forgiving.

Our speech should be uplifting and grace-giving.

EPHESIANS 5-6 | ANSWERS

We should imitate God by living in love and self-sacrifice.

The relationship is compared to a marriage, with Christ as the husband and the church as the bride.

The armor of God includes the belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, shoes of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation and sword of the Spirit.

Children should obey and honor their parents.

Servants should obey their masters as they would Christ, and masters should treat their servants well.

We are to pray in the Spirit, with all kinds of prayers and requests, being watchful and persevering.

PHILIPPIANS 1 | ANSWERS

Paul thanks them for their partnership in the gospel.

Paul's imprisonment has served to advance the gospel.

For Paul, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

The Philippians should conduct themselves in a way that is worthy of the gospel.

It has been granted to them not only to believe but also to suffer for Christ.

Paul prays that their love may abound with knowledge and discernment.

PHILIPPIANS 2 | ANSWERS

He emptied himself of all but love, taking on the form of a servant.

It is the opposite of selfish ambition and vanity.

To look out for others' interests and consider them more significant.

Fellow workers with Paul in spreading the gospel.

To actively live out faith in cooperation with God's work.

By teaching humility and exemplifying servanthood.

PHILIPPIANS 3 | ANSWERS

His Jewish heritage and adherence to the law.

A Pharisee and persecutor of the church.

Eternal life with Christ.

Those living against Christ's teachings.

Awaiting eternal life with Jesus.

As a past persecutor turned apostle.

PHILIPPIANS 4 | ANSWERS

To find joy in Christ regardless of circumstances.

Through prayer and supplication with thanksgiving.

A calmness that protects our hearts and minds.

Overcome any challenge with Christ's strength.

Positive and virtuous attributes.

Learning contentment in every situation.

COLOSSIANS 1 | ANSWERS

Christ in believers, the hope of glory.

Creator and sustainer of all.

From sin's domain to Christ's kingdom.

Sharing Christ's sufferings for the church's benefit.

To be firmly grounded in faith.

To present everyone mature in Christ.

COLOSSIANS 2 | ANSWERS

Dead in sin but made alive in Christ.

To be firmly established in faith and gratitude.

They are deceptive and not based on Christ.

Overcoming spiritual powers through the cross.

They are mere shadows; Christ is the reality.

It leads to pride and disconnects from Christ.

COLOSSIANS 3A | ANSWERS

Being “dead” to our sinful past means no longer being controlled by sin, as if the old sinful nature has died.

Christians should live with new desires and priorities, focusing on virtues and godly living.

Setting our minds on things above means prioritizing spiritual and eternal values over temporary, earthly concerns.

We’re instructed to put away behaviors such as sexual immorality, impurity, anger and lying.

The new self is renewed in knowledge, reflecting God’s image, and empowers us to resist sin.

Unity in Christ means that cultural and social distinctions no longer divide us; we are all one in him.

COLOSSIANS 3B – 4 | ANSWERS

Wives should submit to their husbands, husbands should love their wives and children should obey their parents.

Employees should work sincerely, as if serving the Lord, not merely to please humans.

It means letting Christ’s teachings influence us deeply, leading to wisdom, worship and gratitude.

Masters should treat their servants justly and fairly, recognizing they also have a master in heaven.

We should interact wisely with nonbelievers, using gracious words and making the most of every opportunity to witness.

Tychicus, Onesimus and others are mentioned as they have been faithful workers and encouragers in Paul’s ministry.

1 THESSALONIANS 1-2 | ANSWERS

The “hard-won victory” refers to the establishment of a faithful church amid persecution.

They imitated Paul and the Lord, displaying joy even during affliction.

The Holy Spirit empowered their acceptance of the gospel with conviction and transformation.

Their faith was so renowned that Paul felt no need to speak further about it.

With integrity and love, as if caring for their own children.

They faced opposition and suffering but continued to preach boldly.

1 THESSALONIANS 3-4 | ANSWERS

Paul lovingly refers to them as his hope and joy, and he longed to visit and strengthen them.

The Rapture is when believers will meet Christ in the air and be with him forever.

Because Christians are called to live in a way that is set apart, pure, and honors God.

As believers, we should live as if we are part of the day, not the night, and be spiritually vigilant.

To live with vigilance and self-control, ready for Christ's return.

To live a life of love, work diligently and behave in a way that's honorable to nonbelievers.

1 THESSALONIANS 5 | ANSWERS

It's a biblical term for God's judgment and the return of Christ.

By living as children of light, staying sober and vigilant and wearing the armor of faith and love.

By supporting and comforting each other and being positive influencers within the church community.

It emphasizes the importance of a continual, prayerful connection with God.

By being receptive to his guidance and not ignoring or resisting his promptings.

By respecting and loving one another, being joyful and upholding good while refraining from evil.

2 THESSALONIANS 1 ANSWERS

The Apostle Paul.

Thessalonica.

Persecutions and afflictions.

They will face God's judgment and eternal destruction.

To make them worthy of God's kingdom.

As a test of their faith and steadfastness.

2 THESSALONIANS 2 | ANSWERS

A rebellion and the revelation of the "man of lawlessness."

A figure who opposes God and proclaims himself to be God.

Stand firm in the true gospel.

The law highlights sin and is for the lawless and disobedient.

Jesus will destroy him with the breath of his mouth.

By holding onto their faith and living in a way that pleases God.

2 THESSALONIANS 3 | ANSWERS

For the Word of the Lord to spread and to be delivered from evil people.

By working hard and not depending on anyone.

If they do not work, they should not eat.

Note their behavior and do not associate with them.

He will establish and guard them against the evil one.

With a personal greeting and a blessing of grace.

1 TIMOTHY 1 | ANSWERS

Timothy, Paul's child in the faith.

To remain in Ephesus and charge certain persons not to teach false doctrines.

It is good if used lawfully and is for the lawless and disobedient.

As a former blasphemer and persecutor who received mercy.
That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

They were handed over to Satan to learn not to blaspheme.

1 TIMOTHY 2 | ANSWERS

Supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings.

For all people, including kings and those in high positions.

He is the one mediator between God and mankind who gave himself as a ransom.

With modesty and self-control, not with extravagant attire.

She is not permitted to teach or have authority over a man.

Through faithfulness, love, holiness and self-control.

1 TIMOTHY 3 | ANSWERS

An overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money.

Because if someone does not know how to manage their own household, they will not know how to care for God's church.

Deacons must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain, and must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.

A new convert may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil; they lack experience and maturity in faith.

It describes Jesus's life and ministry: manifested in the flesh, vindicated by

the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory.

To instruct Timothy on how to behave in the household of God and maintain order and godliness in church leadership.

1 TIMOTHY 4 | ANSWERS

In later times, some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons.

Godliness is valuable in every way, holding promise for the present life and the life to come.

Timothy should reject irreverent, silly myths and instead train himself for godliness.

Timothy should set an example in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, devote himself to Scripture, and use his spiritual gifts.

It refers to the truth about Christ's incarnation, ministry, death, resurrection and ascension.

While bodily training has some value, godliness is valuable in every way, for this life and the next.

1 TIMOTHY 5 | ANSWERS

Timothy should treat older men as fathers, younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with all purity.

The church should support widows who are truly in need and lack family support, showing good works, hospitality and piety.

A charge must be substantiated by two or three witnesses, and those persisting in sin should be publicly rebuked.

It likely means abundant respect and possibly financial support.

Family members should first provide for their own, especially for their household, reflecting godliness.

Timothy should maintain purity in his ministry by not being quick to lay hands on anyone and keeping away from others' sins.

1 TIMOTHY 6 | ANSWERS

Workers should regard their employers as worthy of all honor to prevent God's name and teaching from being reviled.

The love of money is a root of all kinds of evils, leading to harmful desires and straying from the faith.

They should not be arrogant or put their hope in wealth but in God, doing good, being generous, and ready to share.

To guard the deposit of faith and avoid false knowledge that leads away from the faith.

We should be content with food and clothing and avoid the desire to be rich, which leads to temptation and evil.

It is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentedness, since we can't take anything with us when we die.

2 TIMOTHY 1-2 | ANSWERS

Paul encourages Timothy by reminding him of his faith heritage and the Holy Spirit's power, urging him not to be ashamed but to suffer for the gospel.

Paul uses the analogies of a soldier, an athlete and a farmer to represent dedication, adherence to rules and hard work, all necessary for serving Christ.

It is important to handle the Word of truth correctly to avoid false teachings and to be a worker approved by God.

It means that believers are given a spirit of power, love and self-control to face adversities with courage and strength.

Timothy should correct opponents with gentleness, aiming to lead them to repentance and a knowledge of the truth.

Paul reminds Timothy of the sincere faith passed down from his grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice.

2 TIMOTHY 3 | ANSWERS

People will be selfish, proud and disobedient.

Christians should avoid bad behaviors and remain true to Jesus.

Confront false teachings and uphold true doctrine.

The Bible is God-breathed and essential for guidance.

By staying connected to the teachings and seeking God's kingdom.

God will protect and rescue his faithful servants.

2 TIMOTHY 4 | ANSWERS

Be prepared to share the gospel at all times.

Because of a desire for myths over uncomfortable truths.

A reward for a faithful Christian life.

He felt he had fulfilled his mission and was ready for heaven.

Warn them twice, then have nothing to do with them.

Pray sincerely for God's mercy and acknowledge Jesus as Savior.

TITUS 1 | ANSWERS

A Gentile Christian and pastor in Crete.

Blameless, not overbearing, and holding to the true Word.

Some were liars and lazy gluttons.

Believers are free in Christ, but purity matters.

With honesty but also with understanding and patience.

Any teaching that deviates from the clear message of Christ.

TITUS 2-3 | ANSWERS

They should teach and model good behavior.

With self-control and by setting a positive example.

Christ's return and the hope of eternal life.

Submissively, gently and with courtesy.

Warn them, and if they persist, exclude them.

Paul likely traveled extensively, preaching and teaching after his release.

PHILEMON | ANSWERS

The main theme is the equality and unity of believers in Christ, regardless of their social status.

Paul is imprisoned for preaching the gospel, but he sees his situation as an opportunity to further the gospel's reach.

Onesimus is a runaway slave who became a Christian through Paul's ministry. Paul asks Philemon to accept him back as a brother in Christ.

Paul is willing to repay any debt or wrong that Onesimus may have caused Philemon.

Paul expects Philemon to welcome Onesimus with love and forgiveness, treating him as an equal in Christ.

Paul's approach exemplifies Christian love, forgiveness and the importance of reconciling relationships within the body of Christ.

The gospel is for everybody

We believe the gospel is for everybody and that all peoples should have access to the redemptive power of Jesus in their heart language. No matter how hard they are to reach.



Speaking Hope to the World