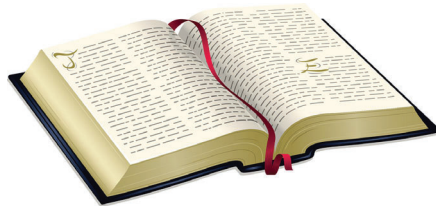


# Bible Correspondence Fellowship



## 1 Timothy Lesson 1 of 2

### Answer Sheet for New International Version (NIV)

The books of First & Second Timothy and Titus are unique from the rest of the writings in the New Testament in that they were written to individuals rather than churches. They are commonly known as the “Pastoral Epistles,” meaning they were written to give advice to these men who served as pastors or overseers of local churches. The letters are important today both to give instruction to modern day Christian leaders, but also for the doctrine and teaching about the Christian life that is valuable for all believers. It also helps Christians identify the qualifications and characteristics of church and ministry leaders.

### INTRODUCTION

**AUTHOR:** The apostle Paul

**PLACE OF WRITING:** First Timothy was probably written from some place in Macedonia (1 Timothy 1:3), although the exact place of writing is not certain.

**DATE OF WRITING:** The letter was probably written around 65 A.D. after Paul’s imprisonment of Acts 28.



**PURPOSE, THEME AND SUBJECT MATTER OF THE LETTER:** The evidence of the Pastoral epistles suggests that Paul was released from prison in Rome after two years, and that he traveled to several cities and churches. During that time he left Titus in Crete (Titus 1:5) and Timothy in Ephesus (1 Timothy 1:3) to set things in order and appoint elders. For that reason Paul gives special attention to the qualifications of elders and deacons in the church in this epistle. He also instructs Timothy to pay attention to the sound doctrine that Paul taught him. Paul also gives instructions for Timothy's personal life and well being.

At the time of the writing of First Timothy the Christian faith was growing. As the churches became more numerous with more members, it became necessary for them to have specific guidelines about the selection of leaders and they needed a more formal form of government. This epistle gives a quite detailed list of requirements and qualifications for the leadership of congregations. Already by this point in the Church's history people were beginning to deviate from the sound teaching of Paul. There is evidence that believers were forsaking the clear teachings of God's grace that the Apostle Paul proclaimed and were returning to the legalism of Judaism (1 Timothy 1:3-8). The epistle also deals with how Christians should act toward one another, and how they need to care for each other.

# Chapter 1

Please read the entire book of 1 Timothy. \_\_\_\_\_ Check.

Please memorize the following verse and be prepared to write it out at the end of this lesson.

*For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and mankind,  
the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all,  
the testimony given at the proper time.*

**1 Timothy 2:5,6 NASB**

## GREETING AND WARNING AGAINST FALSE TEACHERS

Read 1 Timothy Chapter 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Check

1. (v. 1:1) Who wrote this letter? Paul
2. (v. 1:1) What does Paul call himself? an apostle of Christ Jesus  
Who appointed him to that position? by the command of God
3. (v. 1:2) To whom is this letter addressed? Timothy  
How does Paul describe Timothy? my true son in the faith

Read Acts 16:1-3.

4. (v. 1:2) Why would Paul call Timothy his son if he was not? (See 1 Corinthians 4:14-17)  
Paul became a father to Timothy by presenting him the gospel  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Answers will vary)
5. (v. 1:3) Where was Timothy to stay while Paul was in Macedonia? Ephesus
6. (vs. 1:3-4a) What was Timothy to do there?  
command certain people not to teach false doctrines any longer  
or to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. (v. 1:4) What are some things taught by false teachers and what do those teachings promote? false doctrines and myths and endless genealogies
8. (v. 1:5) What is the goal of the command in verses 3-4? love
9. (v. 1:5) Where does this love come from?  
a pure heart; a good conscience; a sincere faith
10. (v. 1:6) What have those that have forsaken these things turned to?  
meaningless talk
11. (v.1:7) What did these people want to become and why could they not become that?  
teachers of the law but they did not know what they were  
talking about or what they confidently affirmed
12. (v. 1:8) When is the Law good?  
if it is used properly
13. (vs. 1:9-10) For whom was the Law made?  
Those who are lawless and rebellious; for the ungodly and sinners;  
for the unholy and worldly; for those who kill their fathers or mothers; for murderers;  
for the sexually immoral, homosexuals, slave traders, liars, perjurers and whatever  
else is contrary to sound teaching.

**Note:** There are other scriptures that speak of the purpose and value of the Law. Paul makes it clear that Law had no power to save a person. All the Law could do was to point to an individual's need for Christ. Paul, in other passages, says that the Law was powerless to bring eternal life because of the flesh, our inherent sinfulness. He also describes it as a teacher or schoolmaster that was given to point us to Christ. The Law can only condemn, it cannot transform. True change can only come through the regeneration of the sinful nature which comes through a relationship with Jesus Christ and the renewing work of the Holy Spirit.

**Please read: Romans 3:19-20; Galatians 3:23-24; Romans 8:3-4, Titus 3:5**

14. (v. 1:11) To whom was the gospel entrusted? Paul

## GOD'S GRACE TO PAUL

15. (v. 1:12) For what is Paul thankful to the Lord Jesus Christ?

Strength from the Lord because He considered Paul faithful putting him into service

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16. (v. 1:13) How does Paul describe himself before he was converted?

a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a violent aggressor

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17. (v. 1:13) Why was Paul shown mercy?

he acted in ignorantly in unbelief

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18. (v. 1:14) What three things were poured out abundantly to Paul?

grace, faith and love

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19. (v. 1:15) What is the trustworthy (faithful – KJV) saying that deserves full acceptance?

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners

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20. (vs. 1:15-16) How does Paul describe himself?

Foremost sinner

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21. (v. 1:15) Why do you believe Paul considered himself to be the worst or chief of sinners?

Paul persecuted the church and killed and imprisoned many believers

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22. (v. 1:16) Why was Paul shown mercy by God?

Jesus might demonstrate His perfect patience as an example for those who believe in Him for eternal life.

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**Note:** Paul describes himself as a pattern of God's grace to those that come after him. Paul was the first member of the Church, which is the Body of Christ. He was the first to be saved during the present Dispensation of the Grace of God. God saved him apart from the Law and made him a part of a unique and previously unknown program in which God offered salvation entirely by grace through faith. Paul's example of how God can save a wretched sinner, completely by grace, based upon faith in the death of the Lord Jesus Christ, is a pattern for how all of us have been likewise saved and made members of the Body of Christ.

23. How does your personal testimony serve as an example for others?

(Personal answer)

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24. (v. 1:17) How is God described in this verse?

eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God

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25. (vs. 1:18-19) Why did Paul give Timothy these instructions?

so he will fight the good fight, keeping faith and a good conscience

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26. (v. 1:19) What happened to those who rejected this instruction?

suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith

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27. (v. 1:20) What happened to Hymenaeus and Alexander because they rejected the sound teaching of Paul and why? (also read 1 Corinthians 5:1-5)

they were handed over to satan so they will be taught not to blaspheme

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## Chapter 2

Read 1 Timothy 2:1-15 \_\_\_\_\_ Check

1. (v. 2:1) What should we do for everyone?

make petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving

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2. (v. 2:2) Who is specifically listed that we should pray for?

kings and all who are in authority

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3. (v. 2:2) How are we to live?

peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness

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4. (v. 2:3) How does God respond to this?

good and pleasing

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5. (v. 2:4) What does God want for everyone? (Read 2 Peter 3:9)

to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth

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6. (v. 2:5) Who is the only mediator between God and man?

Christ Jesus

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7. (v. 2:6) What did Jesus do for everyone?

gave Himself as a ransom

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8. (v. 2:7) To what was Paul appointed?

a herald and apostle

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9. (v. 2:7) What and to whom did Paul teach?

the Gentiles in faith and truth

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10. (v. 2:8) What should men everywhere do and how should they do it?

pray, lifting up holy hands, without anger and dispute

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11. (v. 2:9) Describe the appropriate way a Christian woman should dress?

modestly with decency and propriety, adorning themselves,  
not with elaborate hairstyles or gold or pearls or expensive clothes

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**Note:** Paul is not necessarily forbidding women from wearing any jewelry but rather he is telling them that their dress should be modest and appropriate. The excessive use of such things in Paul's time was considered inappropriate for a respectable woman.

12. (vs. 2:9-10) These verses are addressed to women. Can you think of ways in which they could apply to men as well?

men should also dress modestly and discreetly

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13. (v. 2:11) How should a woman learn?

in quietness and full submission

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14. (vs. 2:12-14) Is the woman permitted to teach or have authority over a man? Why?

No. Adam was formed first and then Eve

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**Note:** These verses clearly state that women are not to have authority over men within the realm of the local church. The Bible does not place restrictions on women in society in general, but within the family and the church there are many verses that teach that primary authority rests with men. The language of verse 12 in the original Greek suggests that Paul is talking about women that are trying to dominate men, not merely have some say or influence in decisions. The Greek word translated “have authority over,” *authentein*, is very strong and is used to imply complete, domineering, autocratic, absolute rule. Likewise the command to be silent implies one that is appropriately quiet in proper circumstances. It does not imply that a woman is forbidden from saying any words whatsoever.

**Note:** Verse 15 is one for which no firm interpretation can be made. There are other verses like this in the Bible, such as 1 Corinthians 15:29, which speaks of baptism for the dead. In both that case and this one, these kind of statements are isolated with no other verses anywhere in the scriptures to give us better understanding of the meaning of the passage. Therefore, in such cases it is best to not try to give a clear interpretation and accept the fact that we will never know what God meant in this case. It is safe to assume that whatever the meaning of the passage is, knowing cannot be that important or the Holy Spirit would have given us more material to help us understand it.



# Chapter 3

Read 1 Timothy 3:1-13 \_\_\_\_\_ Check also read Titus 1:5-9

**Note:** In this section of 1 Timothy as well as the parallel passages in Titus, Paul describes the characteristics of two offices in the local church, elders or overseers (these titles refer to the same office) and deacons. Elders refer to men in the church that serve as spiritual leaders. These people had special authority and leadership responsibilities and thus God established some very high moral and ethical standards for them. The office of deacon had less to do with leadership and more with service. The Greek word translated deacon is diakonos and is used several times in the New Testament to refer to ministers. Paul uses it of himself. There is a sense in which all believers are to be ministers, those that serve and help others for the glory of God. However, it appears there are those within local churches that are given a special designation of deacon. It seems that the role of the deacon was to care for the more physical concerns of the church and the well being of its members, so as to free the elders for spiritual leadership (Acts 6:1-6)

1. (v. 3:1) How does Paul describe the work of an overseer or bishop?

a noble task

2. (vs. 3:2-3) There are eleven requirements, or character traits of an elder listed in these two verses. By looking at those requirements write your own description of what type of person a church leader should be.

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3. (v. 3:4) How must an overseer manage his home?

well and see that his children obey him and do so in a manner of full respect

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4. (v. 3:5) Why is it important that an overseer be able to manage his family well?

if he does not know how to manage his family he cannot take care of God's church

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5. (v. 3:6) Why should a leader not be a recent convert?

so that he will not be conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil

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6. (v. 3:7) What must an overseer's reputation be and why?  
must have a good reputation with outsiders so he will not  
fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap
7. (v. 3:8) What are the qualities that a deacon should have?  
worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine and not pursuing dishonest gain
8. (v. 3:9) What should deacons hold on to?  
deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience
9. (v. 10) What must happen before someone can serve as a deacon?  
must first be tested and nothing found against them
10. (v. 11) How should a deacon's wife be?  
worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything
11. (v. 12) How should a deacon manage his household?  
must be faithful to his wife and manage his children and household well
12. (v. 13) What has one that has served well as a deacon earned?  
gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus

**Read 1 Timothy 3:14-16 \_\_\_\_\_ Check**

13. (v. 14) What about this verse implies that Paul was no longer in prison, as in Acts chapter 28?

he hoped to come to Timothy soon

14. (v. 15) Why did Paul leave these instruction?

so Timothy would know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household

15. (v. 15) How does Paul describe the household of God?

the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth

What Bible Version did you use for this lesson?: \_\_\_\_\_

Your questions or Comments:

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