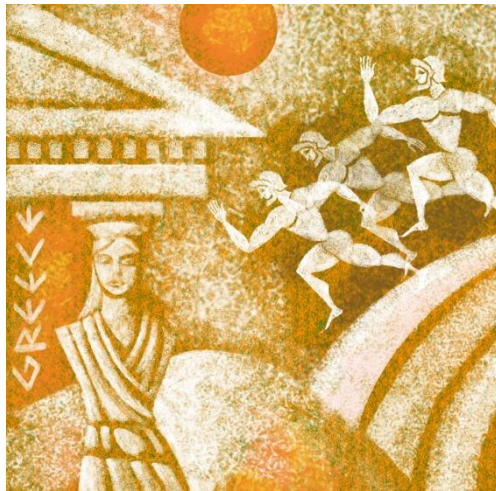


Ι ΤΙΜΟΤΗΥ

Ι Τιμόθεος



Calvary Bible Church 1 Timothy 1:1-11 One-week Study Guide

Wednesday Night Small Groups

Tim & Melinda Inman

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All material can be downloaded from: <http://calvary-bible.org>

The Inductive Method

Observation

What does the text say?

Overview

Establish Context by determining Historical Background

Where does it fit in the Bible timeline?

Ask: Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How?

Make simple lists of people, places, and events mentioned in the text

Make simple lists of key words that are used throughout large portions of the entire book

Determine Book and Chapter Themes

Mark questions to return to later for future study

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Chapter Studies

Ask: Who, What, When, Where, Why and How?

Make more thorough lists of people, places and events

Make more thorough lists of Key Words in chapter or section

Ignore chapter divisions when the theme is carried forward

Mark Contrasts, Comparisons, Expressions of Time, Terms of Conclusion

Beginning of Interpretation: Tie this all together by examining text verse by verse

Outline or complete Structural Analysis to break down difficult text

Examine meanings of Key Words as you study verse by verse

Meditate on text to determine paragraph themes

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Interpretation

What does the text mean in correct context?

What principles do I see that tie to other sections of scripture?

Complete Cross References of those passages of scripture

Complete examination of Key Words: meaning, tense, voice

Notice and examine meaning of verbs & descriptive adjectives

Note commands and warnings

Consult commentaries after completing your own study

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Application

Based on correct interpretation of the text:

What must I do?

How can I apply this truth to my life?

How does this affect me?

How does this better knowledge of God change me?

Meditate on scripture and Memorize important, applicable passages of scripture

What do I see? What does it *mean*? How does this *change* me?

Digging in: Observing, Interpreting & Applying the Text

Read and study prayerfully each day. “Prayer is really a key to effective Bible study. Learn to pray before, during, and after your reading of the Scriptures. Prayer is especially crucial when you come to a place in your study where you are stuck and confused.”¹

The Text: Everyone studies in their own unique way; therefore, there are several study options for you to choose from to assist you in studying 1 Timothy 1:1-11.

- (1) If you prefer to work from one marked copy, remove the working copy at the end of the Overview material, place it in a three-ring binder, and use it for our entire study of 1 Timothy.
- (2) If you don't like the above option, the text will be printed throughout this material; therefore, you can use this Study Guide alone. The entire book of 1 Timothy is printed at the back to help you keep this section in context within the book.
- (3) Or, use your own bible and simply refer to this material for study suggestions.

This week we will focus in and observe 1 Timothy 1:1-11 carefully and thoroughly.

The importance of careful, thorough Observation continues:

“The more time you spend in **observation**, the less time you will need to spend in interpretation, and the more accurate will be your results. The less time you spend in observation, the more time you will need to spend in interpretation, and the less accurate will be your results.”²

In this material, we move from Observation to Interpretation to Application.

“Start with God’s Word; pray that the Spirit gives you clarity; then study to see what the text actually says. The Holy Spirit inspired the writing of the Bible, so who better to help us as we seek to understand it? Scripture tells us that the Spirit not only inspired the Bible, but also illumines it for us today (1 Cor. 2:12-16 and 2 Tim. 3:16).

“Exegesis: an attempt to discover the meaning of the text objectively, starting with the text and moving out from there.

“Eisegesis: to import a subjective, preconceived meaning into the text.

“The word *exegesis* comes from a Greek word, meaning ‘to lead out’...You start with the text and draw out its meaning. *Eisegesis*, on the other hand, is when you start with an idea or conviction, then search for verses in the Bible to prove your point...The danger in this is that we can take verses out of context to support just about any point of view. For years people have used this style of interpretation in order to justify greed, lust, divorce, and countless other sins. Cults have also used eisegesis to justify their beliefs...The bottom line is that we can easily pursue just about any lifestyle we desire, then find Scriptures to show everyone it’s all right to live that way. **But what would it look like to live *exegetically*? If we were to start with Scripture and allow it to dictate our actions, how would we live?**”³ This type of interpretation and application is the goal of Spirit-filled believers.

This material is designed to help you achieve correct interpretation and life-changing application.

Turn the page to begin your initial observations of 1 Timothy 1:1-11, which is given in two different translations. **As always, use any study suggestions that help you; skip those that don’t.**

¹ Howard G. & William D. Hendricks, *Living by the Book*, Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2007, pg. 100.

² *Ibid.*, 43.

³ Francis Chan, *Forgotten God: Reversing our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit*, Colorado Springs: David C. Cook, 2009, pg. 23-24.

Day One, Focus on this: What do I see (Observation)? We'll learn what it *means* later.

Contemplate the text in at least two translations. Observe the details.

1 Timothy 1:1-11 (NIV, 1984)

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

2 To Timothy my true son in the faith: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer **4** nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. These promote controversies rather than God's work—which is by faith. **5** The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. **6** Some have wandered away from these and turned to meaningless talk. **7** They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.

8 We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. **9** We also know that law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, **10** for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine **11** that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.

Keep in mind the three main charges Paul has given Timothy: **1) Protect the church from the false teachers; 2) Protect your spiritual walk while dealing with lies; 3) Put the church back together**

Use the time God has given you. Skip or adjust any of these suggestions to suit your own study aims.

First Steps:

- 1. Read 1 Timothy 1:1-11 above and on the facing page. Read it in each translation.** Reading a text in more than one translation gives us new insight. **Read thoughtfully. Read contemplatively.** Read like you've never read it before. **Compare the wording of each.**
- 2. Write down observations and questions so you can investigate them later. Mark it up.**
- 3. If your study time allows, quickly read through the entire book of 1 Timothy to set 1:1-11 in context (pg. 17-19).** As you read, **notice the sections** where Paul discusses the topic of the false teachers—you listed their qualities in your overview.
- 4. Remember** what you observed about the main themes of the entire letter (listed above by the scroll). **Circle or underline** the components of 1:1-11 that address any of these themes.
- 5. How** does 1:1-11 illustrate Paul's reason for writing? "I am writing you these instructions so that, if I am delayed, **you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household,** which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth (3:14b-15)."
- 6. Notice words or ideas you want to study in greater detail later and make a note in the margin.**
- 7. (See the information on outlining, pg. 13, and make an outline if you'd like.)**

1 Timothy 1:1-11 (ESV)

1Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

2To Timothy, my true child in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, **4**nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith. **5**The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

6Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, **7**desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

8Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, **9**understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, **10**the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, **11**in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

What do you see? Look at the text. Circle your observations or jot them in the margins.

- **How** does Paul describe himself in v. 1? **How** did he come to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, according to 1:1? **How** are both God and Jesus described here? Review Paul's calling in Acts 9, if you don't remember the details.
- **How** does Paul describe Timothy? In light of what you know about Timothy, **why** does Paul call him his "true son in the faith"? **What** does this greeting reveal about their relationship?
- **In 1:2b, what** three things does Paul write in blessing upon Timothy, and **Who** are they from? **How** are God and Jesus described here?
- **Where** did Paul go, according to 1:3? **What** churches are in Macedonia? **Does** he have a long-standing relationship with these churches?
- **In what location** does he urge Timothy to remain? From your overview, **what** did you discover about Timothy's long-term relationship with this church?
- **Why** is Timothy to stay, according to 1:3b?
- **In addition to the teaching of false or different doctrine, what else** are the false teachers devoted to, 1:4? **What** do these promote? **What** effect does controversy have on a church?
- **In contrast, what** should they be devoted to, 1:4b? **How** is God's work to be done?
- **Why** does Paul command this, v. 5a? **What** is the goal? **From whence does love come, v. 5b?**
- **But what** has happened? **What** have "some" done, v. 6? **What** do they want to be, v. 7a? **But what** disqualifies them, v. 7b?
- **In v. 8-9a, what** does Paul remind Timothy that they know? (Remember, this is the observation stage; interpretation comes next, after we've ascertained what the text says.)
- **For whom** does Paul remind Timothy that the law is made, v. 9b-10? **What** particular types of sinners are described in these verses? **But what** is the final phrase, v. 10b? **Does this cover every other type of sinner who isn't listed previously? Is every sinner included in this list?**
- **How** is sound doctrine described in v. 10b-11? **How** is God described?
- **To whom** has God entrusted this glorious gospel, v. 11b?

Day Two, Key words: What do I see (Observation)?

1. **Read through 1 Timothy 1:1-11 thoughtfully one more time.** Determine what the key words and phrases are for this particular section. Focus in on the significant words in *this section*. A key word or phrase is one that is crucial to understanding (interpreting) the text.
2. **So what words are crucial?** Consider the questions you answered and meditated on from pg. 4 & 5. What words, if you removed them from the text, would remove the meaning or intent of the passage? What words tie this passage to Paul's overarching purpose and focus in this letter?
3. **Mark the words you now understand to be crucial—the words that have definitions you must know in order to understand the text.**

HOW: Use **color** or **pencil** or **ink**, whichever you prefer. Mark each key word with a unique mark for that particular word (a different color for each key word, or a different way of circling it, or drawing a box around it, or any other creative mark you want to use for each particular word). **The purpose of marking is to help us see the details of the passage.** (1) If you are using the working copy you used to complete your Overview, you will see that some of these words are marked already—words that are significant for the entire letter. (2) If you're not using the working copy, use the text on the facing page (pg. 7), or (3) complete this exercise in your own bible. Or do any combination of the three; it's entirely up to you.

Mark these words with unique markings for each one:

- God, Christ Jesus, Holy Spirit
- Author (Paul, including pronouns [I, me, my])
- Recipient (Timothy [you, your])
- Other people (believers/the righteous, the false teachers [certain men, some, these], lawbreakers, rebels, the ungodly and sinful, etc.)
- Key/Significant Words observed and marked during the Overview (refer to the Overview material, if needed)
- Other Significant Words which are crucial for understanding 1 Tim. 1:1-11: *command; love; pure heart; good conscience; sincere faith; meaningless talk; teachers-of-the-law* (one word in Greek); *the law; good; sound doctrine; conforms; entrusted, etc.*

Mark any words that are crucial for determining the meaning.

4. **Make lists of details you observe about each key word. Are any used elsewhere in the letter? What is written about each? Ask who, what, where, when, who, and how?**
5. **Pay attention to what the text says about the people you marked when you completed the Overview and in this exercise.**

Make additional notes below and on pg. 7: What do you observe?

Write here the goal of Paul's command:

How are God & Jesus described?

1 Timothy 1:1-11 (NIV, 1984)

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

2 To Timothy my true son in the faith: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer **4** nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. These promote controversies rather than God's work—which is by faith. **5** The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. **6** Some have wandered away from these and turned to meaningless talk. **7** They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.

8 We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. **9** We also know that law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, **10** for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine **11** that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.

Jot notes & observations here:

Observations about the false teachers

Observations about the proper use of the law

Day Three: What do I see (observation)? What does it *mean* (interpretation)?

Mark Grammatical Phrases: This exercise will help you see how the main ideas of this section tie together. Note these with marks in the working copy or in the copy of 1 Tim. 1:1-11 on page 9.

- Mark **words of contrast** (*but, however, nevertheless, or, neither, nor, not only, whether, etc.*) with a lightning bolt mark above the word (or any mark you choose that you feel shows contrast). **In the margin of your working copy, write what is being contrasted. For example:**

v. 8—*We know that the law is made*

NOT

for the righteous

BUT


for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and...

- Mark **words of comparison** (*like, likewise, also, in addition, as, furthermore, moreover, etc.*) with an = sign or arrow (or any mark you choose). The comparison in v. 8-9 is a bit tricky to pick out of the text, due to the contrast; but the two uses of the law are being compared:

We know that the law is good if one uses it properly

We ALSO know

that the law is made....

-  Draw a little clock face (or another mark you choose) above words showing **expressions of time** (*then, when, after, until, in the days, etc.*). **Why are these words or phrases important?**
- Mark with an “x” words that show **conclusions or an end result** (*therefore, so that, for this reason, because, etc.*) and **draw arrows** to connect the linked ideas. **What is the author trying to show or prove? What is the conclusion or result he is emphasizing? For example:**



*...stay there in Ephesus **SO THAT** you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer...*

- Mark **commands** in a way that draws the eye, such as highlighting. There are no commands in the Greek, though the word *command* is used three times.
- The New Testament was written in Koine Greek. Due to Greek word formation and syntax, some things would be obvious in the original Greek that are not obvious in English.
 - In the Greek, these words express continuous or habitual action. Mark like this (~):
 - 1:3, “went,” “not-to-teach-false-doctrines” (one word in Greek)
 - 1:4, “to devote themselves”
 - 1:7, “want to be,” “do not know,” “are talking about”
 - 1:8, “uses”
 - 1:10, “sound”
 - These words express actions that were completed in the past, but which have an ongoing or continual result. Mark like this (→):
 - 1:9, “also know”

As you completed this exercise, what was revealed about the passage? Write down anything you discover that you hadn’t seen in the text before. Continue tomorrow.

1 Timothy 1:1-11 (NIV, 1984)

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

2 To Timothy my true son in the faith: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer **4** nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. These promote controversies rather than God's work—which is by faith. **5** The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. **6** Some have wandered away from these and turned to meaningless talk. **7** They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.

8 We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. **9** We also know that law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, **10** for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine **11** that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.

Day Four: What does it *mean* (interpretation)? How does this *change me* (application)?

Focus now on comprehending the text. Use the following steps. Each person studies differently; but make it a practice to always try new techniques. **If a particular step or idea doesn't help, try something else.** Come at the text from as many angles as possible.

PRAY FIRST! Ask the Holy Spirit to help you comprehend.

1. What words or phrases do you need to investigate in order to comprehend the text? **Question the text (see box below).** Determine the words you *need* to understand. Commands and instructions are always significant.
2. Read the word and its surrounding text in another translation. Sometimes just reading the passage stated in another way helps us to comprehend.
3. If the meaning is still unclear, look up word definitions in the concordance. **How?**
 - **Page 12 details "how to use a concordance,"** or ask your group leader.
 - For additional help, use your concordance to **find other places these same key words are used** (called finding the "cross references"). Look up the words that are assigned the same Greek reference numbers. For example, "urged" in v. 3 is Strong's #3870 or GK (NIV) #4151. Look at other verses that include words that have the same numbered definitions. **Consult page 12 for "how to find a cross reference."**
 - **There are specific instructions and additional study helps for 1:1-11 on the Help pages, including assistance with: 1:1—God our Savior; 1:8-10; Timothy's charge, myths and endless genealogies, God's work, the proper use of the law. A list of free online study sites is also given.**
4. Next re-examine each sentence or verse and paraphrase it using the definition. Write it out in your own words to be sure you understand.
5. Then move on to the next word you want to examine.
6. Final option: Examine the notes at the bottom of your study bible or in one of the listed commentaries (pg. 15), after you've completed the above steps. Try on your own first and experience the joy of discovery; then, find out if you were right in your assessment.

AS YOU'RE DOING THIS: Question the text: ask **who, what, when, where, why,** and **how.**

"If you want to understand a biblical text, you've got to bombard it with questions. The Bible is never embarrassed to be asked questions. That doesn't mean it will answer all of them. But you still need to ask to determine if they can be answered. Obviously, if you're going to ask questions, you've also got to look for the answers. Where will you find them? In the text. Observation will give you the basic building blocks out of which you will construct the meaning of a passage. The answers to your questions will come directly from your observation process."⁴

EXAMPLE: In **what way** is God the Father our Savior? In **what way** is Jesus Christ our hope? **How** do we obtain grace, mercy, and peace from them both? **Timothy is urged to command certain men to stop teaching false doctrines.** **How** is the goal of this command love, v. 5? **What** is loving about this command? In **what ways** does this love come from a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith? **Why** are these qualities valuable? **According to v. 7, why** are those who want to be teachers of the law disqualified? **But, what** two things do Paul and Timothy know, v. 8 & 9? **What** is the proper use of the law? **Do you** know the right use of the law? **Why** is the law not made for the righteous? **Isn't everyone a sinner? Then, who** are *the righteous*? In **what ways** is the law made for lawbreakers? **Who** all is in this category, v. 9b-10? **What** is sound doctrine, v. 10b-11?

⁴ Howard G. & William D. Hendricks, *Living by the Book*, (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2007), 43.

Use this page to write down definitions and to put verses into your own words:

HELP PAGES

How to use a Concordance & Cross Reference Help:

Complete Word Studies: The Old Testament was originally written in Hebrew (some Aramaic). The New Testament was originally written in Koine Greek.

How to use a Concordance:

1. Look up the word in the alphabetized front section of the concordance. (Remember: If you're using a Strong's concordance, you have to find how the word was translated into English in the KJV. "Command," v. 1 in the NIV, is translated "commandment" in the KJV, for instance; so you look up "commandment").
2. Under the word, look for the verse reference where that specific word is used.
3. Look for the number on the right. Each number corresponds to a Greek or Hebrew word.
4. Turn to the appropriate dictionary or lexicon in the back of the concordance (Hebrew for the Old Testament and Greek for the New Testament).
5. Look up the number for the definition.
6. The words in italic are the definition. Write down the Greek word's transliteration (in English alphabet); and write the definition down next to your key, essential word.

How to Find a Cross References: Using the concordance, compare references in the Bible which use any word or quoted passage of scripture that you determine needs further study—you won't do this with every word, just the ones you feel need additional investigation. **Several suggestions follow:**

God our Savior, Christ Jesus our hope, and the Holy Spirit are one in essence; their purposes are unified for all of eternity. In the OT examine **God our Savior**: Job 5:15; 22:29; 26:2; Psalm 34:6, 18; 37:39, 40; Psalm 51; Psalm 72:4, 13; 76:9; 86:2; 109:31; 145:19; 149:4; Proverbs 20:22. Notice the qualities of those whom God saves. Also examine Luke 1:47; Jude 1:25. In the pastoral letters, Paul often describes God the Father and God the Son as Saviors of their people: **1 Tim. 1:1; 2:3; 4:10**; Titus 1:3-4; 2:10, 13: 3:4-6 (includes the Holy Spirit). John calls Jesus our great God and Savior: John 1:1; 20:28, etc.

In this first section, we encounter the first of the various words used in this letter for Paul's charge to Timothy. In v. 3, Paul **urged** (Strong's #3870/GK,NIV #4151) Timothy. This same word is used in **1 Timothy 2:1; 5:1**, translated *exhort*; and **6:2**. It is used for how Paul instructs Timothy and how he is to instruct others. A similar word is used in **4:13**, translated *preaching* (Strong's #3874).

We also find that Timothy is to **command** (Strong's #3853/GK,NIV #4133) certain men not to teach false doctrine. This same word is used in **4:11; 5:7** (*give...instructions*); **6:13** (*charge—Paul charges Timothy*), **17**; and a synonym is used in **1:5, 18** (*instruction*)(Strong's #3852; GK,NIV #4132).

"Myths in the NT is a negative term characterizing beliefs as fanciful, untrue, and even deceptive (cf. 2 Tim. 4:4; Titus 1:14). Such myths were often used to excuse immoral behavior. With the later reference to the misuse of the law (1 Tim. 1:7-10), **genealogies** here seem to refer to speculative use of OT accounts of biblical characters or family trees. [**God's work**] translates a phrase (Gk. *oikonomian theou*) that is difficult to capture in translation (Gk. *oikonomia* can mean 'orderly plan' or 'household management, stewardship'). In this context it refers either to God's orderly outworking of his plan of salvation in all human history, or to human responsibility ('stewardship') in advancing that plan. In either case, the false teacher produce speculation rather than the advance of the kingdom by faith in Christ" (*ESV Study Bible*, Crossway Bibles, 2008, pg. 2325).

A cross reference examination of **the law** is useful for **comprehending the proper use of the law**. We suggest examining these passages to begin: **Romans 3:9-31; Romans 7; Galatians 3:11, 23-29**. If there is still confusion in your mind about the proper use of the law, consider examining other passages in the Old and New Testament. Look in the concordance at the list of all the references given for *law* (Strong's #3551/GK,NIV #3795) and/or for *righteous* (Strong's #1342/GK,NIV #1465). Examine other verses or all the verses that use the same number to compare the word's usage. When the same word is studied in more than one account it is understood more fully. Complete this with *urge* and/or *command* to examine them more thoroughly, if you want to do a more in-depth study of Timothy's charge/commission.

Another cross reference suggestion involves **the list of sinful traits/persons given in v. 9b-10**, beginning with "for those who kill their fathers or mothers..." Compare this list with **Exodus 20:12-16** (part of the Ten Commandments) and **Leviticus 18:22; 20:13**. The list in v. 9b-10 is a first-century cultural adaptation of the terms and phrases given to the Jewish people approximately 1400 years earlier. It allowed Timothy and any other readers, who lived in a violent Persian-influenced Greek culture, to comprehend what the breaking of the law looked like in their culture, so they could recognize it. Often when we read the Scriptures, we don't immediately see the application, because the terms are archaic. Paul, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, made it clear. The same adaptation is helpful in our culture. **What would the list be for us? Some will be exactly the same; others will be different.**

Online Resources

Try these sites: www.mystudybible.com, www.esvstudybible.org/, www.blueletterbible.org, www.biblegateway.com, and www.crosswalk.com. Find which you like best; they all have online concordances. Examples: The first website listed has all tools keyed right to the text—just enter the text; using the word study tool on the right, click the word you want to investigate. This is the: *Holman Christian Study Bible*, another new translation to use for comparison. The *ESV Study Bible* site has excellent study notes. Both of these are simple and very helpful. All of these sites are free.

OPTIONAL: Make an Outline

Consider making an outline of the section or the entire book: Some people find that making an outline opens the text up for them. A simple outline could be made at this point if this is something you find beneficial. The text is provided online in a Word document to help you. **Skip it if this doesn't help you.**

- **Complete a word-for-word outline of each section.** If you are the type of person who benefits from this type of structural work, prepare this initial outline skeleton by filling in the theme of the entire book with a theme for paragraph as Roman numerals under the theme of the entire book. Then you can add the text word-for-word under the Romans numerals, with each new paragraph being categorized by a letter of the alphabet.

- I. Theme of 1:1-2: Salutation
 - A. 1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus
 - 1. by the command of God our Savior
 - 2. and of Christ Jesus our hope,
 - B. 2 To Timothy my true son in the faith:
 - 1. Grace, mercy and peace
 - a. from God the Father
 - b. and Christ Jesus our Lord.

- **Other people find that it helps them to break down the text from the first day they begin to study a book or section of the Bible.** Experiment with outline forms or simply breaking down the text in a way that makes grammatical structure more obvious to see if this helps you comprehend more.

Example: 1 Timothy 1:1-2 (NIV)

Paul
 an apostle
 of Christ Jesus
 by the command of God
 our Savior
 and of Christ Jesus
 our hope
 To Timothy
 my true son
 in the faith:
 Grace,
 mercy,
 and peace
 from God
 the Father
 and Christ Jesus
 our Lord

Day Five: What does it *mean* (interpretation)? How does this *change* me (application)?

After completing your word studies with the concordance, integrate all the information you discovered. Pull it all back together.

Identify themes within this section, then define the entire section:

As we worked through 1 Timothy 1:1-11, we meditated on the meaning of all we discovered by observing and questioning the text, completing the word studies, and examining any cross references that were helpful. Therefore, we should now be able to construct a theme for each smaller paragraph that summarizes the content within this section.

Why do this? Just as paraphrasing helped us to ponder on the text and to see if we really comprehended the verse clearly, so stating the theme allows us to pull together the basic ideas of this section so that we retain what we've learned when we go about our daily lives.

This step aids our meditation on scripture by organizing in our minds what's here. See if you can write a concise sentence that summarizes the theme of each paragraph.

1 Timothy 1:1-11 (NIV, 1984)

Theme of v. 1-2: _____

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

2 To Timothy my true son in the faith: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Theme of v. 3-7: _____

3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer **4** nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. These promote controversies rather than God's work—which is by faith. **5** The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. **6** Some have wandered away from these and turned to meaningless talk. **7** They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.

Theme of v. 8-11: _____

8 We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. **9** We also know that law[a] is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, **10** for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine **11** that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.

Theme of entire section, v. 1-11: _____

Next, check your conclusions:

Now consult a commentary. Now is the time to check your conclusions. You'll gain from someone else's study by doing this; but remember, commentary notes aren't scripture. Commentators aren't infallible. Opinions will vary. Save *final* interpretation until you've finished studying the entire book and have had time to contemplate your study.

Good commentaries (hard copies are available in the church library):

- *The NIV Application Commentary: 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus*, by Walter L. Liefeld, Zondervan.
- *The MacArthur New Testament Commentary: 1 Timothy*, by John MacArthur, Moody Press.
- *The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Abridged Edition*, Barker & Kohlenberger III, Zondervan.
- *ESV Study Bible*, Lane T. Dennis, Exec. Editor; Wayne Grudem, Gen. Editor, Crossway Bibles.

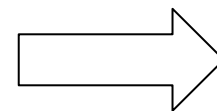
Check the online sources to see what commentaries they have. Investigate the commentary sections of these: blueletterbible.org, crosswalk.com, and/or biblegateway.com.

Now apply it. Let it change you. Begin to live it.

Begin to implement the specific portions which the Holy Spirit moved you to realize were areas of growth necessary for your own life. As you studied, periodically we asked you questions to help you consider how the text might relate to you. Now, consider the questions below and on the next page to contemplate even further application. What additional applications can you find?

Consider these personal questions:

1. In coming to 1:1-11, what did I find to be the most significant statements? Why?
2. What specifically does this section tell me about God and Christ Jesus? What is promised by the very nature of these members of the Godhead?
3. How can these statements affect my life and change it?
4. How did the statements in this section relate to the other main points in the letter?



5. **Is there an example here for me to follow? What type of model is provided by Paul and Timothy that applies to all believers? What needs to change in my life in order to live a life like Timothy's, demonstrated by his willingness to deal with a difficult church and his immersion in the Scriptures? How does Paul's commitment and concern for Timothy challenge me to grow in being a discipler of younger believers?**
6. **What positive motivations do I find in the passage and the book as a whole that convince me to lead a righteous life?**
7. **Do any portions of 1 Timothy 1:1-11 produce a sense of conviction within me?**
8. **What type of prayer does this section provoke?**
9. **When I must approach others who are promoting division and false teaching, do I speak in love which comes from a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith? What practical steps am I taking in order to grow in this type of love?**
10. **Do any parts of this section cause me to want to live differently? How does this conviction connect to the main point of how members of God's household should conduct themselves? What things need to change? Is there anything on the list in v. 9-10 that remains and needs to be repented of? What solid steps am I going to take to grow in living a life that conforms to sound doctrine and the glorious gospel of the blessed God?**
11. **Is there a verse or verses to memorize?**

From this examination of these Old Testament references, which Paul wrote to Timothy without explanation because Timothy already knew these Old Testament allusions and passages, we learn something vital about this young man: **Timothy was well-versed in the Old Testament Scriptures.** This is confirmed in 2 Timothy 3:14-17; 1:5. Not only had Paul taught him, but his grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice had taught him from his childhood. By this time this letter was written, most of the New Testament had been written, many portions of it penned by Timothy as Paul dictated and they collaborated on the letters. Timothy was a godly young man. May men like him arise in our day!

In this section, Paul lays out one of the main charges to Timothy—he must deal with the false teachers. Their teaching has the potential to harm Timothy, as it has harmed the rest of the church in Ephesus. Therefore, throughout the letter, Paul girds up Timothy with admonishment, encouragement, and examples from his own life—all of us need this type of uplifting as we deal with difficult and deceptive situations. A section of support and fatherly care follows this one.

In moving forward, don't make these mistakes:

1. Don't substitute interpretation for application and do nothing.
2. Don't substitute superficial obedience for substantive life-change.
3. Don't substitute rationalization for repentance.
4. Don't substitute an emotional experience for a volitional decision to change.
5. Don't substitute communication for transformation and merely talk about what you've learned.⁵

⁵ Some of these application ideas are from *Living By the Book*, Howard G. Hendricks and William D. Hendricks, Moody Press Publishers, Chicago, 2007.

1 Timothy (NIV, 1984)

1 Timothy 1

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

2 To Timothy my true son in the faith: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer **4** nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. These promote controversies rather than God's work—which is by faith. **5** The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. **6** Some have wandered away from these and turned to meaningless talk. **7** They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.

8 We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. **9** We also know that law[a] is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, **10** for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine **11** that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.

12 I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me faithful, appointing me to his service. **13** Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. **14** The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

15 Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. **16** But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. **17** Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

18 Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by following them you may fight the good fight, **19** holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith. **20** Among them are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme.

Footnotes:

- a. 1 Timothy 1:9 Or *that the law*

1 Timothy 2

1 I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone— **2** for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. **3** This is good, and pleases God our Savior, **4** who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. **5** For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, **6** who gave himself as a ransom for all men—the testimony given in its proper time. **7** And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a teacher of the true faith to the Gentiles.

8 I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing.

9 I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, **10** but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God.

11 A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. **12** I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent. **13** For Adam was formed first, then Eve. **14** And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner. **15** But women[a] will be saved[b] through childbearing—if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.

Footnotes:

- a. 1 Timothy 2:15 Greek *she*
b. 1 Timothy 2:15 Or *restored*

1 Timothy 3

1 Here is a trustworthy saying: If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer,[a] he desires a noble task. **2** Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, **3** not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. **4** He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. **5** (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) **6** He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. **7** He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

8 Deacons, likewise, are to be men worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. **9** They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. **10** They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons.

11 In the same way, their wives^[b] are to be women worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything.

12 A deacon must be the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well. **13** Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus.

14 Although I hope to come to you soon, I am writing you these instructions so that, **15** if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth. **16** Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great:

He^[c] appeared in a body,^[d]
 was vindicated by the Spirit,
 was seen by angels,
 was preached among the nations,
 was believed on in the world,
 was taken up in glory.

Footnotes:

- a. 1 Timothy 3:1 Traditionally *bishop*; also in verse 2
- b. 1 Timothy 3:11 Or *way, deaconesses*
- c. 1 Timothy 3:16 Some manuscripts *God*
- d. 1 Timothy 3:16 Or *in the flesh*

1 Timothy 4

1 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. **2** Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. **3** They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. **4** For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, **5** because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

6 If you point these things out to the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, brought up in the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. **7** Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. **8** For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

9 This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance **10** (and for this we labor and strive), that we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, and especially of those who believe.

11 Command and teach these things. **12** Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. **13** Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. **14** Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

15 Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. **16** Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

1 Timothy 5

1 Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, **2** older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity.

3 Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need. **4** But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God. **5** The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and to ask God for help. **6** But the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. **7** Give the people these instructions, too, so that no one may be open to blame. **8** If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

9 No widow may be put on the list of widows unless she is over sixty, has been faithful to her husband,^[a] **10** and is well known for her good deeds, such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the saints, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of good deeds.

11 As for younger widows, do not put them on such a list. For when their sensual desires overcome their dedication to Christ, they want to marry. **12** Thus they bring judgment on themselves, because they have broken their first pledge. **13** Besides, they get into the habit of being idle and going about from house to house. And not only do they

become idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying things they ought not to. **14** So I counsel younger widows to marry, to have children, to manage their homes and to give the enemy no opportunity for slander. **15** Some have in fact already turned away to follow Satan. **16** If any woman who is a believer has widows in her family, she should help them and not let the church be burdened with them, so that the church can help those widows who are really in need.

17 The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. **18** For the Scripture says, “Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain,”^[b] and “The worker deserves his wages.”^[c] **19** Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by two or three witnesses. **20** Those who sin are to be rebuked publicly, so that the others may take warning.

21 I charge you, in the sight of God and Christ Jesus and the elect angels, to keep these instructions without partiality, and to do nothing out of favoritism.

22 Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, and do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure.

23 Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses.

24 The sins of some men are obvious, reaching the place of judgment ahead of them; the sins of others trail behind them. **25** In the same way, good deeds are obvious, and even those that are not cannot be hidden.

Footnotes:

- a. 1 Timothy 5:9 Or *has had but one husband*
- b. 1 Timothy 5:18 Deut. 25:4
- c. 1 Timothy 5:18 Luke 10:7

1 Timothy 6

1 All who are under the yoke of slavery should consider their masters worthy of full respect, so that God’s name and our teaching may not be slandered. **2** Those who have believing masters are not to show less respect for them because they are brothers. Instead, they are to serve them even better, because those who benefit from their service are believers, and dear to them.

These are the things you are to teach and urge on them.

3 If anyone teaches false doctrines and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, **4** he is conceited and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions **5** and constant friction between men of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. **7** For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. **8** But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. **9** People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. **10** For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

11 But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. **12** Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. **13** In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you **14** to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, **15** which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, **16** who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. **18** Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. **19** In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

20 Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, **21** which some have professed and in so doing have wandered from the faith.

Grace be with you.