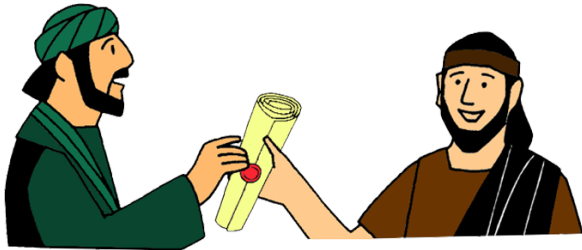


Timothy

Scripture Reference:

[Acts 16:1-5; 2 Timothy 1:3-7; 3:14-15](#)



Suggested Emphasis:

We can be like Timothy and begin to learn about God from an early age.

Memory Verse: Begin memorising the New Testament Books and continue throughout the term.



Background
Study



Story
Introduction



Telling
the Story



Review
Questions



Songs



Learning
Activities



Other Online
Resources

Story Overview:

Timothy's mother (Eunice) and grandmother (Lois) were Jewish Christians. They raised Timothy to be a Christian even though his father was a Greek. When Timothy was a young man he joined Paul in Lystra and travelled with him on his second missionary journey. Timothy helped Paul by travelling to other places to teach churches and by helping him write some of his epistles. Eventually Paul asked

Timothy to stay in Ephesus and minister to the church there. I and 2 Timothy are letters from Paul to Timothy to teach him how to be a good minister to the church.

Background Study:

Although Timothy's mother (Eunice) and grandmother (Lois) were Jews, his father was not. He was a Greek. These women must have taken their faith very seriously because Timothy was taught about God from infancy (2 Timothy 3:15).

When Timothy was a young man he joined Paul in Lystra and travelled with him on his second missionary journey. Timothy helped Paul by travelling to other places to teach churches (1 Corinthians 4:17; 16:10-11) and by helping him write some of his epistles (1 Thessalonians 1:1; 2 Thessalonians 1:1; Philemon 1. Timothy had been with Paul during his first two year imprisonment in Rome. Later, at the time Paul wrote his epistles to Timothy, Paul was in prison again. The first time Paul was imprisoned he lived in a rented house (Acts 28:30). It is believed that Paul then was released for a time. Later, when the persecution of Christians intensified, Paul was arrested again. This time, tradition says, he was kept in an underground dungeon, awaiting execution as a common criminal.




Timothy ministered to the church in Ephesus. I and 2 Timothy are letters from Paul to Timothy to teach him how to be a good minister to the church. Paul wrote to encourage Timothy. He reminded Timothy of what he had gone through for the sake of Christ and encouraged Timothy to remain true to God's Word and to preach it boldly. Paul's letter to Timothy was solemn, but not downhearted. Paul had led Timothy to the Lord and considered Timothy a son—a spiritual son. Paul was giving his final challenge to the young man he had discipled and loved deeply.

Paul knew that Timothy would face persecution and that people would reject his message. Timothy, being from Lystra, had firsthand knowledge about some of Paul's sufferings in that region. (Acts 13:14-14:23). Paul had visited Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra on his first and second missionary journeys.

To prepare Timothy for persecution, Paul exhorted him to remain true to God's eternal Word. Through human authors God had revealed Himself in His word. By

remaining true to that Word, Timothy could be sure he spoke God's truth.

The final charge Paul gave Timothy was to preach the Word "in season and out of season" (2 Timothy 4:2-whether it's popular or not). To preach God's Word, Timothy had to know it. Likewise, if we are to be ready to use God's Word in our lives or the share it with others, we need to study it. Timothy's life is a wonderful example of a child who learned from God's Word and grew up to be strong and faithful. This should give us, as bible class teachers, great encouragement to make sure that our class preparation is good and that everything stays focused on the Word. Children do not have to wait until they are "older" to learn about God and His Word. Timothy was not just "baby-sat" during infancy—he studied the word of God. Don't lose sight of the importance of teaching children!

-  [What happened before this story?](#)
-  [What happens after this story?](#)
-  [List of all Bible stories and themes on this website.](#)

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Way to Introduce the Story:

Invite a young talkative child (younger than the children in your class) to class today. Ask the child to tell the class what they know about God. You might ask them questions like "Suzy, do you love God? Who made the elephants? Do you like to say prayers? Can you sing [Jesus Loves Me](#) etc? Ask one or two of the older children in your class to very carefully escort the child back to their bible class. "Class, do you remember when you were that little? Did you learn about God when you were younger? What was one of the first things you remember learning? Who were your teachers? In today's story we are going to learn about someone who started learning from the word of God when he was a little boy. His mother and his grandmother helped him learn."

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The Story:

Once there was a woman who loved God very much. Her name was Eunice. When Eunice had a baby boy she named him Timothy. Since her husband did not believe in God, Eunice asked her mother, Lois, to help her teach little Timothy how to love the Lord. As Timothy grew, he learned more and more from his mother and his grandmother.

When Timothy grew to be a young man, he met the missionary, Paul. Timothy became a helper to Paul. Paul loved Timothy just like a father loves a son. Timothy was a helper and a friend to Paul even when Paul went to prison. Timothy helped Paul write letters to churches so that they could learn about God too.

Timothy decided to live in the city of Ephesus. He helped the church there by teaching and preaching. Sometimes it was hard for Timothy. He was a young man still and sometimes older people did not listen to him because he was young. But Timothy loved God and he did not give up teaching the people in Ephesus.

Timothy's old friend Paul wrote him letters to help him be a better minister. He gave Timothy advice and told him that he should always study God's word and be ready to give answers to people who ask questions. Paul told Timothy that God's Word would help him know what to say to people who needed help.

When Timothy was working with people he would have been glad that his mother and grandmother had helped him start learning about God from when he was very small.

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Review Questions:

1. What was the name of the young man who started learning about God when he was very little? Timothy
2. Who taught Timothy about the word of God when he was little? His mother, Eunice, and his grandmother, Lois.
3. What missionary did Timothy help? Paul

Song Suggestions:

- Crayon Song
- He's Got the Whole World
- Oh Be Careful, Little Eyes
- [Books of the New Testament](#)
- [I Can Be a Missionary](#)
- Jesus the Little Children
- Refer to the [Song Page](#) on this website for more options.

Learning Activities and Crafts:

[\(How to choose the best learning activities for my teaching situation\)](#)

Activities:

- Show the class some of the material used to teach children younger than them. They will notice that the material seems babyish. Let them enjoy the fact that they have “matured in the Lord” since that time.
- Arrange to have the children visit a class of younger children and observe their class.
- Talk to a teacher of a younger class and ask if there is a visual aid or room decoration that your class could make for that class (Make sure to arrange this before the day of your class!).

Crafts:

- Make a “family scrapbook” for Timothy’s family. Draw pictures of his mother, grandmother, father, and then Paul and some of the events of Timothy’s life (reading bible scrolls when a child, helping Paul write letters first preaching job in Ephesus, etc.)
- [Make a scroll. Click here for instructions.](#) Have children write out the words of
2 Timothy 3:16 on the scroll.

Check the [Teaching Ideas](#) page on this website for ideas that are adaptable to any

lesson.



[Click here for "Timothy" printables to print \(A4 paper\)](#)

[Click here for "Timothy" to print \(Letter size-USA\)](#)

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Other Online Resources:

- [Colouring page \(raisingourkids.com\)](#)
- [Colouring page and puzzle worksheets- when Timothy joined Paul on his 2nd missionary journey \(Calvary Curriculum\)](#)
- [Wordsearch of Books of New Testament \(christiananswers.net\)](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/marynnz/new-testament-epistlesbooks/>

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