

I. Read II Timothy 1:1-5

- A. In verse 1, the Apostle Paul identifies himself as an apostle and makes it clear that he is not an apostle by his choice but by God's (*"by the will of God"* – NAS). He goes on to make reference to *"the promise of life in Christ Jesus"* – NAS). What is this promise? (hint: read John 11:25-26)

What *religious* truth might be inferred from the question and answer above? (hint: see John 14:6; Acts 4:12)

- B. Paul refers to Timothy as his "beloved son" in verse 2. Was Timothy truly Paul's son?
- C. In verse 2, Paul greets Timothy by citing the "grace, mercy, and peace" which God and Christ extend to believers. Is there any special significance to the order of these three?
- D. Is there any significance in the reference in verse 2 to Christ Jesus being referred to as Lord?
- E. In verses 3-5 Timothy's spiritual lineage is listed and identified. Both his grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice are cited as believers who established the faith in Timothy's family. Timothy's father was a Gentile and probably was not a believer (Acts 16:1). With Timothy's family as background, read 1 Corinthians 7:12-14 and comment on the hope given to a believing parent who is married to an unbeliever.

- F. Pause for a moment and think about your family. Was there a particular family member that played a crucial role in your coming to faith in Christ? (perhaps a parent or grandparent) Do you know of great-grandparents or great-great-grandparents (and so on) that were clearly Christians and who helped establish a Godly line (lineage) in your family? (If not, perhaps you can be the start of a faithful line that will extend through subsequent generations of your family).
- G. Why do you think Paul referred to Timothy as his “son” (v2) and as his “*true child in the faith*” — 1 Timothy 1:2, NAS)?

Is there a principle to be learned from Paul’s relationship to Timothy?

- H. Timothy’s grandmother and mother were Jewish. They apparently had a knowledge of the Old Testament scriptures and an anticipation of the fulfillment of the promises of the coming Messiah. When presented with Christ as He is offered in the gospel, they trusted in Jesus with “*a sincere faith.*” Read Galatians 3:23-29 and Romans 1:16-17 and discuss what it tells us about the necessity of faith in Christ for salvation for both the Jew and the Gentile.
- I. How should parents prepare their children to trust in Christ as Lord and Savior? (read Deut. 6:4-9; Ephesians 6:1-4).