

1 Timothy

Introducing the Pastoral Epistles	The last four books in the Pauline portion of the New Testament are the Pastoral Epistles. The first three (1 Tim; 2 Tim; and Titus) are “pastoral” because they were written to two pastors: Timothy and Titus. The last book, Philemon, is harder to assign. Paul wrote it from prison, but it has a pastoral concern.
Uniqueness of Content in the Pastoral Epistles	Leaving Philemon aside, 1-2 Timothy and Titus are unique in that the letters concern the things that were important for young pastors to understand, like church organization; discipline; appointment of leaders; and dealing with rebellious members and false teachers. But the main motif in the Pastoral Epistles is the encouragement from Paul to Timothy and Titus to <u>maintain doctrinal purity</u> . This aspect of the Pastoral Epistles ties all of the aforementioned subject matters together.
Who Was Timothy?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Son of a Greek father and Jewish mother. This gave him a unique position as an ambassador of Christ to reach the Jews and the Gentles. 2. His grandmother, Lois, and his mother, Eunice, both knew the Lord (2 Tim 1:5) 3. Paul calls him “my true son in the faith” (1 Tim 1:2) 4. He served as Paul’s representative to the church in Corinth (1 Cor 4:17) and the church in Philippi (2:19) 5. When Paul wrote 1 and 2 Timothy to him, he was a pastor in Ephesus (about 5 years after he wrote Ephesians)
Purpose for 1 Timothy	When Paul got news that false teachers had infiltrated the church in Ephesus, Paul sent Timothy to confront them and restore the church to what Jesus and Paul had in mind. Doing so would prove to be difficult because Timothy was young, full of energy but short on experience. As a result, Paul writes to him to tell him to set the example by how he leads: with a persistent faith and a clear conscience.
1 Timothy Phrase	Lead by example and purity in doctrine
The Design of 1 Timothy	<p>Paul’s design of 1 Timothy is practical, yet artistic. It’s an inclusio design. In the opening and closing, Paul commissions Timothy to confront the leaders of Ephesus who had infiltrated the church and their bad theology. In between these, Paul gives practical instructions for how to deal with the issues Timothy faced within the church.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Timothy’s Commission (1) 2. Instructions on How to Deal with Issues in the Ephesian Church, Pt. 1 (2-3) 3. Instructions on How to Deal with Issues in the Ephesian Church, Pt. 2 (4-6a) 4. Timothy’s Commission (6b)
Key Verse	“But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith.” (1 Tim 6:11-12a)

Timothy’s Commission (1)	
Oppose False Teachers	³ As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain people not to teach false doctrines any longer ⁴ or to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. Such things promote controversial speculations rather than advancing God’s work—which is by faith. (1:3-4)
The Basis of Timothy’s Ministry	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 immense patience as an example for those who would believe in 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. (1:15-17)
The Charge	¹⁸ Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by recalling them you may fight the battle well, ¹⁹ holding on to faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and so have suffered shipwreck with regard to the faith. (1:18-19)

Instructions on How to Deal with Issues in the Ephesian Church, Pt. 1 (2-3)	
In Corporate Worship	<p>1. I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—² for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness (2:1-2).</p> <p>2. **(The Most Debated Passage in the NT): ⁹I also want the women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, adorning themselves, not with elaborate hairstyles or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, ¹⁰but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God. ¹¹A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. ¹²I do not permit a woman to teach or to assume authority over a man (2:9-12)</p>
Overseers (i.e, Bishops; Prebyters; Pastors; Elders)	<p>Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. ²Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his 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. ⁴He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full^[a] respect.⁵ (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) ⁶He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. ⁷He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap (3:1-7)</p>
Deacons	<p>⁸In the same way, deacons^[b] are to be worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. ⁹They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons. ¹¹In the same way, the women^[c] are to be worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything. ¹²A deacon must be faithful to his wife and must manage his children and his household well. ¹³Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus. (3:8-13)</p>

Instructions on How to Deal with Issues in the Ephesian Church, Pt 2 (4-5)	
What Timothy Should Point Out	<p>The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. ²Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. . . .⁶If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters,^[a] you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. (4:1-2; 6).</p>
What Timothy Shouldn't and Should Do	<p>¹¹Command and teach these things. ¹²Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. ¹³Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. ¹⁴Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you. (4:11-14)</p>
How To Treat People in the Congregation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do not rebuke an older man harshly but exhort him as if he were your father. 2. Treat young men as brothers 3. Older women as mothers 4. Younger women as sisters, with absolute purity 5. Give proper recognition to those who are really in need. 6. Most especially the widows 7. Do not take the laying on hands (for leadership and for healing) lightly (all ch 5) 8. **Discussion of the master slave relationship (ch 6:1-3) **Also has been hotly debated
False Teachers	<p>³If anyone teaches otherwise and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, ⁴they are conceited and understand nothing. They have an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions. . . (6:3-4)</p>
Love of Money	<p>⁶But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. ⁹Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For 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. (6:6-10)</p>

Timothy's Commission (6:11-21)	
<p>¹¹But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. ¹²Fight 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 (6:11-12)</p>	