

The Household of Timothy

Acts 16:1-3; 2 Timothy 1:3-5; 2 Timothy 3:14-17

Introduction:

1. So far, in our series, we have focused on the man being the central character of the faith for his family.
2. In the life of Timothy, we have a little bit of a different story. We always put pressure on the man for the faithfulness of his family, but many times it is a faithful woman, who carries on the legacy of faith.
3. We will look into Timothy's life for some practical lessons of faith and the importance of passing down faith.

Discussion:

I. Timothy's Legacy of Faith

A. Timothy's Faith did not begin with himself

1. Illustration: Margaret E. Vick married and converted J.H. Holbrook → C.A. Wheeler (baptized 6,000) → baptized Gus Nichols (baptized 12,000 his brother 3,000) → William Woodson (baptized countless souls): Gus Nichols baptized Gary Hampton's mother, and Gary Hampton now trains preachers to preach the gospel.
2. Timothy's faith was instilled by his mother and his grandmother (2 Timothy 1:3-5)
3. Timothy's mother even had to raise Timothy in the midst of having a gentile father (Acts 16:2)
4. One more reason to remain faithful even if one has an unbelieving spouse

B. Faith when not taught, is not passed down

1. Judges 2
2. Timothy's mother could have easily quit because her husband wasn't a believer (Prov. 22:6)
3. Jesus has no other plan for the faith to be passed on (Ephesians 1:22-23; Colossians 3:10-13)

II. Timothy imitated that Faith

A. It was passed down from his grandmother Lois, to his mother Eunice, to Timothy → # of people?

1. 2 Timothy 1:3-5; 3:14-17
2. The faith was passed on by teaching of God's word (2 Timothy 3:14-15; Deut. 6)
3. Timothy's teaching began during childhood.

B. Paul calls Timothy's faith "sincere" (2 Tim. 1:5)

1. "Sincere"- undisguised, without hypocrisy (Rom. 12:9; 1 Tim 1:4-5)
1. Many times, people are Christians only because their parents were Christians and they never really take on a faith of their own.
2. This happened to many Israelites because they thought, just because they were the children of Abraham that they right in the eyes of God.
3. We know that this is not the case (John 8:31-59; Romans 2:25-29).
4. Even now, children cannot live off the faith of their parents but each need to belong to Christ. and make that decision on their own (Galatians 3:26-29; Ezekiel 18:14-32).

III. Timothy continued the legacy

A. He was an encourager to Paul

1. He was Paul's son in the faith (2 Cor. 4:7)
2. Paul's fellow worker- Acts 16:3; Romans 16:21
3. Paul wanted Timothy to come and see him, before his death (2 Timothy 4:9, 13, 21)

B. He dedicated himself to preaching and teaching

1. He worked with Ephesus (1 Tim. 1:3)
2. He was sent to Corinth (2 Cor. 4:7; 1 Corinthians 16:10-11)
3. He was sent to encourage the church in Thessalonica (1 Thessalonians 3:1-6)
4. He was to be ready in season and out of season to preach and teach (2 Timothy 4:1-4)
5. He was to teach faithful people, so they could teach faithful people (2 Tim. 2:2).

Conclusion:

1. The importance of leaving a legacy of faith, should be a priority, not to have a famous name but so that many will be saved, through that legacy.
2. Jesus came here and had no other plan, than the plan of His believers going out and making more believers.