

# The First Letter to Timothy

# 1

## Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

## Morning Study

Today we look at the third section of **1 Timothy**, which begins to target the core reason for Paul's first letter to Timothy. This section can be divided into two subsections:

- ☞ Paul's reason for writing to Timothy (**3:14-16**).
- ☞ Paul's general instructions to Timothy (**4:1-16**).

Take note of the emphasis Paul places on "godliness" in this section. It is obvious that the gnostics were professing a kind of godliness (note **2 Timothy 3:5**), and Paul refutes them by showing what true godliness is (**2:2; 3:16; 4:7-8; 6:5-6**).

Read each subsection below, answering for yourself the questions associated with them. Type out your answers or jot them down on a piece of paper and file your answers with your morning study.

### Read 1 Timothy 3:14-16

- ☞ Why was Paul writing his letter to Timothy? (**3:14-15**).
- ☞ What is the pillar and foundation of the truth? (**3:15**).
- ☞ List the six items that Paul says make up the "mystery of godliness"? (**3:16**).

### Read 1 Timothy 4:1-16

- ☞ How did the Spirit say some would abandon the faith? (**4:1**).
- ☞ Through whom did the "things taught by demons" come? (**4:2**).
- ☞ What were the two things these "hypocritical liars" were forbidding (**4:3**) and what was Paul's answer to this? (**4:4-5**).
- ☞ What was Timothy to do in order to be a good minister of Christ Jesus? (**4:6**).
- ☞ What was a trustworthy statement deserving full acceptance? (**4:7-10**).
- ☞ How was Timothy to set an example for the believers? (**4:12,16**).
- ☞ What three things was Timothy to devote himself to until Paul came? (**4:13**).
- ☞ What was Timothy instructed not to neglect? (**4:14**).
- ☞ How do **verses 6, 11, 13** and **15** relate to each other?

# Memory Verse

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.

1 Timothy 4:8

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!