

They Call Me Coach

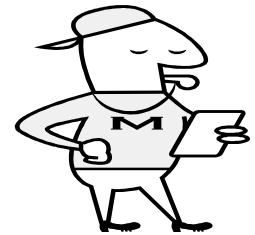
Studies in 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus

Not In Our House

Introduction to “1 Timothy 3-4

One of the standards that successful teams must achieve is to win on their home court. With one voice they must proclaim to the opposing team, “Not in our house”, meaning that they will not allow the visitors to prevail at their “house”. The key to this is leadership—the leaders must galvanize their team to resist any such attempt. In 1 Timothy 3-4 “Coach” Paul encouraged Timothy and other church leaders to stand firm against the enemy’s attempts to win on their home court. To achieve this their leaders had to understand and execute certain things correctly. First, they had to understand the requirements for leadership. Unlike the secular world, where skill-sets and resumes are the meas-

uring sticks, in the church the requirements for leaders have to with their character. Elders and deacons, the official church leaders, were to have a reputation for integrity, faithfulness, balance, wisdom, contentment, and the ability to lead their own families well. However, they needed to understand the realities of their leadership as well as its requirements. It was vitally important that they stand for the truth in the church because there were many demonically inspired enemies inside and out who were distorting the truth; if allowed to continue they would destroy the joy of God’s grace. Finally, there were certain responsibilities of leadership that the



Following God’s game plan for kingdom growth.

pastor of the church, such as Timothy at Ephesus, was to exemplify. He was to demonstrate spiritual discipline, a commitment to sound teaching, sincerity, love, and a willingness to teach the truth even in the face of opposition. By fulfilling these responsibilities such a pastor would set the standard for the entire leadership to be able to say to the enemy, “not in our house”.

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- Worship—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- Fellowship—You were formed for God’s family
- Discipleship—You were created to become like Christ
- Ministry—You were shaped for serving God
- Evangelism—You were made for a mission

Daily Questions for 1 Timothy 3-4

(For answers to questions attend an ABF or go to www.celebrationnet.com/resources/leader resources)

<p>1. Read 3:1-3. How should we view the elder (overseer) role (v1)? List the characteristics in v2-3 that he should exhibit, and what you think they mean.</p>	
<p>2. Look at 3:4-7. What additional characteristics are listed here, and why do you think they are important?</p>	
<p>3. From 3:8-11 what qualifications do deacons or deaconesses need to administer the physical needs of the church? Why are these important?</p>	

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I Timothy 3-4 Study Questions (cont)

4. Based on 3:12-13 what further characteristics should deacons have (v12), and what are they promised if they do the job well (v13)?

5. Looking at 3:14-16, why is it important for the church to function as intended (v15)? How does v16 explain the only way a church can fulfill their purpose?

6. According to 4:1-5 what kind of teaching will always creep into church (v1-3)? Why do you think such false teaching occurs (v1), and why is it wrong (v4-5)?

7. From 4:6-8 what must a leader beware of (v7)? What 2 things must he do to combat this (v6, v7-8)? How can we do this today?

8. In 4:9-11 for what are we striving (see v8), and upon what hope is it based (v10)? In what sense is Jesus the “Savior of all men”, and why “especially of believers”?

9. Read 4:12-13. What goals should each of us have as followers of Christ? How will doing these dispel any doubts about our ability to lead or disciple others (v12)?

10. Using 4:14-16 how should we relate to our spiritual gift and spiritual growth (v14, 16)? What is the acid test for our success in these areas (v15), and what is promised if we succeed (v16)?

11. We are all called to lead others in the Christian faith. From this study what areas of character do you need to work on (3:1-10), and what practices do you need to put into place (4:6-16)?

Scripture to Remember

“Godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.”

1 Timothy 4:8 (NAS)

Celebration Fellowship

*Reaching—
Restoring—Raising Up*

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Life Group Questions—Building Bridges to Unbelievers

(Using questions based on today's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. Talk about a time when you were very proud in a good way, and very proud in a bad way. Discuss the idea that “every relationship problem has pride at its root”.
2. What is “bad” pride, and how does it differ from “good” pride? Why must we attack pride rather than pursue humility?
3. How would you ask God specifically for help in attacking pride (maybe awareness of it, specific areas to work on, etc)?
4. Talk about why affirming the value of others and adjusting to others' needs is beneficial in attacking pride. Give examples of how you can do this.
5. Why is it important to acknowledge your own responsibility if you are to defeat pride in your life? How can your life group help with this?
6. Discuss anything else important to you from the message today if you have time.