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# INSTRUCTIONS OF GOD IN THE LETTERS FROM PAUL

## DEDUCTIVE LESSON ONE

### 1 Timothy 1

Welcome to the second session of this year's MBF studies, entitled Instructions of God in the Letters from Paul. In this ten-lesson study session, we will be looking into the epistles that Paul wrote to Timothy. Whether you are returning from Session One, or just joining us, it is important to start off Session Two the right way: in prayer.

Spend some time, before you begin, asking the Lord to cleanse you of the impurities in your heart, so that He can work in and through you during your times of study. With adoration and gratitude, spend time praising Him. Then present your requests to Him. Among them could be:

- That He would fill you with His Spirit. (God's Spirit is called the Helper, and it is His desire to help you to understand, retain, and put into practice the Scriptures.)
- That you would have the willpower to make ample time for your studies.
- That God would keep you from distraction and deliver you from temptation.
- That He would give you a burden to pray for and communicate with the brothers in your group.
- That He would reveal things to you that are applicable and relevant to your current circumstances.

### **Day One:** Verses 1–2

Read the first two verses of this epistle, and answer the following questions:

1. How does Paul identify himself, in verse 1?

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2. What does he call Timothy, and what greeting does he give, in verse 2?

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3. Where did Paul first meet Timothy and what do we know about his parents? See Acts 16:1.

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4. What does Acts 16:2–3 say about Timothy?

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5. In 2 Timothy 1:5, we get just a little more information about Timothy. What is it?

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6. If you participated in Session One of this year’s study, you already know that Timothy co-authored the New Testament epistles to the Thessalonians. Read the first verse of each of Paul’s epistles (Romans—Philemon) and list any other books co-authored by Timothy.

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7. Here in 1 Timothy 1:2, Paul calls Timothy a “true son in the faith.” In 1 Corinthians 4:17, he calls him “my beloved and faithful son in the Lord.” Obviously the relationship between these two men was very strong and deep. What else did Paul say about Timothy, in Philippians 2:19–22?

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**Scripture Memory:** Our Scripture Memory passage is 1 Timothy 1:15.

“This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.” 1 Timothy 1:15

**Day Two:** Verses 3–11

Read 1 Timothy 1:3–11 and answer the following questions.





**Scripture Memory:** Fill in the blanks from memory.

"This is a \_\_\_\_\_ saying and worthy of all \_\_\_\_\_, that \_\_\_\_\_ came into the world to save \_\_\_\_\_, of whom I am chief." \_\_\_\_\_ 1:15

**Day Four:** Verse 15

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners..." (1 Timothy 1:15).

1. Christ's purpose in this world was clearly stated before He was born. What did the angel tell Joseph, in Matthew 1:20–21?

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2. Christ himself, in no uncertain terms, and on many occasions revealed His purpose on earth. What were His own words?

Luke 5:32

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Luke 19:10

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Matthew 20:28

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John 12:47

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3. John talks about the reasons God manifested Himself in his first epistle. What do you learn from the following verses? (1 John 3:5, 8; 4:9–10)

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**Scripture Memory:** Fill in the missing words from memory.

“This is a \_\_\_\_\_ saying and worthy of all \_\_\_\_\_, that \_\_\_\_\_ came into the \_\_\_\_\_ to save \_\_\_\_\_, of whom I am \_\_\_\_\_.” \_\_\_\_\_:

**Day Five:** Verse 17–20

“Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen” (1 Timothy 1:17).

Today we will take a closer look at the attributes of God listed in 1 Timothy 1:17. In each of the categories below, choose one or two references to read. Report your findings in the space provided.

1. “King”

(Psalm 45:6, Psalm 47:6–7, Jeremiah 10:10, Matthew 6:13, Revelation 19:16)

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2. “eternal”

(Psalm 90:2, Psalm 145:13, Daniel 7:14, Hebrews 1:10–12, Hebrews 13:8)

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3. "immortal"

(Isaiah 25:8, Hosea 13:14, Roman 8:34, 1 Corinthians 15:52–57)

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4. "invisible"

(Romans 1:20, Colossians 1:15–16, Hebrews 11:27; Hebrews 11:1)

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5. "God who alone is wise"

(Matthew 13:54, 1 Corinthians 1:23–24, Colossians 2:3, James 1:5, James 3:17)

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6. Read 1 Timothy 1:18–20 and note anything of interest that you find there.

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**Scripture Memory:** Write out the entire Scripture Memory verse in the space below.

" \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ " \_\_\_\_\_ :

**Day Six:** Personal Application

1. On Day One, we looked at the spiritually kindred relationship between Paul and Timothy. Is there someone in your life who has acted as a spiritual father or a spiritual son—someone who is “like-minded” and has a “proven character” (Philippians 2:20, 22)? If so, write their name or initials below and record a prayer to God containing your thoughts about that person. If not, take time to ask God to send you such a person, in His timing.

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2. On Day Three we read Paul’s testimony of his conversion. Briefly write your own testimony in the space below. Make sure you include the basics: how you were opposed to or separated from God, what God did to change that, and how He is using you today.

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3. "Christ came into the world to save sinners" (1 Timothy 1:15). Why did you come into the world? What is your purpose here? Are you fulfilling that purpose?

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4. Write down the names or initials of five sinners whom you would like to see saved by Christ. Then pray for them by name.

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**Scripture Memory:** From memory, write out the Scripture Memory verse below.

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\_\_\_\_\_ " \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_

Unless otherwise noted, all Scriptures are quoted from the New King James Version.

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**Prayer Requests:**

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