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# INSTRUCTIONS OF GOD IN THE LETTERS FROM PAUL

## DEDUCTIVE LESSON FOUR

1 Timothy 4

**Day One:** Verses 1–3

Read 1 Timothy 4:1–3 and answer the following questions.

1. What does the Spirit expressly say, according to verse 1?

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2. What will these people do, according to verses 2–3?

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3. Today's verses deal with a controversial topic among Christians. Verse 1 says that "some will depart from the faith." Does that mean that individuals who have been saved can lose that salvation? Or does it mean that those who identified themselves with the Christian faith nominally will show their true colors and fall away?

Let's look at some Scripture references that are used to support either side of this controversy. Concerning the security of our salvation, the first set of references seems to say, "Beware!" while the second set seems to say, "Don't worry!" Read through them.

1 Corinthians 10:1–12

Romans 11:19–24

Hebrews 3:12–19, 4:11

Matthew 3:9–10

Jude 1:5

2 Peter 2:9

Psalm 125: 1–2

Isaiah 54:17

John 10:27–29

Romans 8:33–39

4. What is the danger of considering only the first set of verses, without giving heed to the second? And vice versa?

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5. The argument loses importance when we follow the simple advice given in John 15:4a and James 4:8a. What do these verses say?

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**Scripture Memory:** Our Scripture Memory verse this week is 1 Timothy 4:8.

“For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.” 1 Timothy 4:8

**Day Two:** Verses 3–5.

Read 1 Timothy 4:1–5.

1. What do verses 3–5 tell us about what we can eat?

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Read what happened to Peter in Acts 10:1–48, and answer the following questions.

2. What vision did Peter have on the housetop of Simon the tanner?

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3. This license given to eat all kinds of animals (rather than just the kosher animals of the Old Testament law) also taught Peter a spiritual principle. What did he learn, according to Acts 10:15, 28?

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4. What did Peter say in Acts 10:34–35?

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Optional: Other passages also indicate the liberty to eat animals that were once considered “unclean.” Among them they are Romans 14:14, 20 and 1 Corinthians 10:23–27. Read them, if you wish.

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

“For bodily \_\_\_\_\_ profits a little, but godliness is profitable for \_\_\_\_\_ things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to \_\_\_\_\_.” 1 Timothy 4:\_\_\_

**Day Three:** Verses 6–11

Read 1 Timothy 4:6–11.

1. Paul tells Timothy that if he instructs the brethren in all these things, he would be...

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2. What advice does Paul give Timothy in verse 7?

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3. What do you think it means to “exercise yourself toward godliness?”

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4. What does Paul say in 1 Corinthians 9:24–27 regarding this exercise towards godliness?

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5. For what reason do we “both labor and suffer reproach” (1 Timothy 4:10)?

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6. Verse 10 mentions that we trust in the living God. Choose two of the following references to read, and report what they say about those who trust the living God. (Psalm 37:40; Psalm 84:12; Psalm 118:8; Isaiah 12:2; Isaiah 50:10; Nahum 1:7)

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

“For \_\_\_\_\_ profits a little, but godliness is \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to \_\_\_\_\_.”  
Timothy \_\_:\_\_

**Day Four:** Verses 12–16

Read 1 Timothy 4:12–16.

1. In what ways did Paul exhort Timothy to be an example to the believers?

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2. To what things was Timothy to give his attention?

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3. What do you think was the “gift” that Paul mentioned in verse 14?

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4. What further instruction did Paul give to Timothy, in verses 15–16?

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5. “Let no one despise your youth, but be an example...” (1 Timothy 4:12). Young people are often looked down upon for their inexperience, ignorance, and impulsiveness. But a



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**Day Six: Personal Application**

1. What are some ways that you can “exercise yourself toward godliness” (verse 7) in the coming weeks?

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2. “We trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men” (verse 10). Are you trusting God wholly? List something that it is hard for you to continually trust God about. Then pray to God, giving it (back) over to Him. Remember that He has your well-being foremost in His thoughts.

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3. Think of a godly young person like Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, or Abed-Nego. Write his or her name (or initials) below. Spend time in prayer for that young person, their relationship with God, and their ministry to others.

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Now consider—is there anything you can do to exhort and encourage that young person, just as Paul did with Timothy?

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4. Look back at the list of items on which we as Christians should meditate (Day Five). Spend sufficient time today meditating on these things and write down any thoughts you have as you do so.

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