



DAILY BIBLE READING

1 TIMOTHY TRAINING

Tim Blagg

Read. Ask. Live. Love

Daily Bible Reading

What?

Sometimes we find it hard to read the Bible, don't we? At church we hear it all the time: "*read the Bible more.*" But how? Some of the devotionals on offer seem to have less Bible than story. Some of the Bible reading plans seem too big to take on all at once; what should I think about? How can I possibly know what questions to ask as I read through God's word?

It's in light of these questions that these daily bible readings have come into existence! The aim is to help you read God's word for yourself and ask some of the questions to comprehend what God is saying to you today through his living and active word, with the hope asking these sorts of questions for yourself as you read through the Bible in bigger doses that this has to offer. It's a tool, and hence it's only as valuable as our use of it.

My prayer for you as you use these - whether by yourself or with your family around the dinner table - is that God will work through his word to grow you into the fullness of Christ and bring you joy as you come to know him through his word.

How?

The way to approach it every day (as recommended) is:

- 1) Pray to God; it is his word we're reading, so ask him to help you understand it.
- 2) Read the passage once or twice.
- 3) Go through each question, looking back at the bible to think through them.
- 4) Pray about what you have learned, and live out the applications for today.

Want more?

If you want more studies like these ones, check out our online database at www.trinitycity.church/youth - just follow the links. Alternatively, if you're looking for more in depth bible reading plans, many can be found in study bibles or online. Chat to your bible study group leader or pastor for more information.

In Christ,

Tim

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Week 1 (1 Timothy 1)

Day 1

- Read 1 Timothy 1

- Think through the following questions:

1. What are the things that “jump out” at you from this text - the things that are surprising or stick in your mind?
2. What questions do you have from reading these 20 verses? Write them down, pray over them and think through them over the next week. _____

_____?
3. In most of Paul’s letters, he goes from the nice greetings (like in v.1-2) to thanksgiving for the good things he sees happening in the church he’s writing to. However, in 1 Timothy (and Galatians and Titus), Paul jumps straight to business. Looking at all of chapter 1, what is it that makes Paul move on from his greeting immediately into instructions? (Hint: what is so urgent?)

- Training for Today:

- Paul has a very important view of the local church. He thinks that local churches - like Trinity Bay - are an essential part of God’s plan! In 1 Timothy 3:15, he writes that the local church is the place that is to defend and uphold the true teaching of God’s word. Do you think your church does this? Do you take part in the defence and presentation of the truth? As we start this training, pray to God, asking Him to help you know the truth about Him and to know when people aren’t telling the truth of God.

Day 2

- Read 1 Timothy 1:1-2

- Think through the following questions:

1. Paul introduces himself as an apostle of _____
2. Why is Paul an apostle of _____?
3. How does Paul refer to Timothy?

- Training for Today:

- In 1 Timothy 1:1-2, we see a “chain of command”. We see that God is in charge of everything, and that He puts some people in positions of authority over others. God has put certain people in authority over our lives in many different ways, but throughout 1 Timothy the most important way is in Christian leaders, like Paul is. Others include our pastors and our parents (and even our youth leaders!). Pray

today for people who are Christian leaders in your life - pray that God will strengthen them. And remember that God has given them to help you know Him better. You can remind them of this too!

Day 3

- Read 1 Timothy 1:3-7

- Think through the following questions:

1. What did Paul urge Timothy to do in Ephesus?
2. How is God's work advanced?
3. Paul's goal for instructing Timothy to make this command in Ephesus was love. From where does this love come from? (v.5)

- Training for Today:

- What Paul makes clear in v.3-7 is that there are false teachers around. There are people who claim to be Christians, but they don't teach God's truth. Instead, they teach people things which lead them *away* from God! And there is only one way to know what God's truth is and to test what people say: the Bible. So not only today, but every day, read the Bible to know God's truth better. Pray about it. And any time you hear someone speak about God's truth, check what they're saying against the Bible. Ask them questions appropriately (and courteously). God's truth is too important to get wrong!

Day 4

- Read 1 Timothy 1:8-11

- Think through the following questions:

1. Who was the law made for?
2. How does Paul define sound doctrine?
3. What did God entrust to Paul?

- Training for Today:

- The law that Paul refers to in v.8-11 is the summary of God's commandments in the Old Testament. Breaking these laws was an expression of sin - of rejection from God. And by that standard, we are all lawbreakers. But thankfully for us, that's not the end of our story! Rather, there is a gospel; the good news of Jesus Christ's death on the cross. Because of Jesus, we can approach God! Because of Jesus, we are not considered as lawbreakers. Take some time to remember this today. Remember what Jesus did on the cross. Remember that you are forgiven, not because you are good, but because Jesus is good. Because God is good. And be thankful to God; pray to Him expressing your thanks.

Day 5

- Read 1 Timothy 1:12-17

- Think through the following questions:

1. What does Paul say he was once?
2. What does Paul say God showed him in spite of this?
3. Why does Paul say he was shown _____ (from question 2)? (Hint: look at v.16)

- Training for Today:

- Paul says that he was given strength from "*Christ Jesus our Lord*" (v.12). Even one of God's greatest followers was powerless without God's help! And what about us? The best way to train today - the best way to become strong in the faith - is to ask God to strengthen your faith. And not just yours - pray for three other people you know. Ask that God will strengthen their faith too!

Day 6

- Read 1 Timothy 1:18-20

- Think through the following questions:

1. Which command is Paul referring to in v.18?
2. What does Paul say Timothy is to fight?
3. How does Paul say Timothy will fight this fight? (look at v.19)

- Training for Today:

- Paul is concerned with the fight for the faith. As far as he is concerned, if there is one fight worth battling, it is the battle for true faith. Not only within individuals, but within the church. Everyday, there will be a fight in your life over the faith. Will you hold to it? Will you live with Jesus Christ as your Lord? Will you fight for it, even on days when you don't feel like it? Will you fight even on days when you feel invincible? We need Jesus every day.

Day 7

- Church/Youth Group - Passage Covered:

- What was the Talk about?: _____

- What do I need to change? _____

Week 2 - (1 Timothy 2)

Day 8

- Read 1 Timothy 2

- Think through the following questions:

1. What are the things that “jump out” at you from this text - the things that are surprising or stick in your mind?
2. What questions do you have from reading these 15 verses? Write them down, pray over them and think through them over the next week. _____

_____?
3. How important is the gospel of Jesus Christ saving people to Paul’s thoughts in 1 Timothy 2? What makes you think that?

- Training for Today:

- As we saw in 1 Timothy 1, the most important and most central part of being a Christian is to believe the gospel of Jesus Christ. Here we get a little more expansion on that. Paul instructs that God wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth, which he then expands on in v.5-7. All of this is based on the gospel. God wants all people to be saved! So here’s the training: what are you doing about it? Who are you praying for to be saved? Who are you sharing your faith with?

Day 9

- Read 1 Timothy 2:1-2

- Think through the following questions:

1. What different types/descriptions of prayer does Paul list in v.1? What do they mean?
2. Paul specifically says that prayers are to be made for those in authority. What reason does he give for this prayer request?
3. What authority figures can you think of in your life that you should be praying for?

- Training for Today:

- God has put us in the exact time and place in the world that He wants us to be in. He has given us authority figures for a reason. And part of that reason includes us praying for them. Praying for their relationship with God. Praying for them to be equipped to be responsible in what they do. Get started praying for people in authority over you today! Pray for their relationship with God. Pray for their responsibilities. Pray that they will turn to God for wisdom.

Day 10

- Read 1 Timothy 2:1-4

- Think through the following questions:

1. What is good and pleases God our saviour?
2. What does it mean for God to be described as "our saviour"? What is He our saviour from?
3. Paul says to pray for all people (end of v.1) and then in v.4, says that God wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. What do you think Paul wants us to be praying for for all people?

- Training for Today:

- One of the things the false teachers Timothy and Paul were up against may have taught is that God doesn't really want to save *everyone*. They may have taught that God only wants to save Jewish people. Or that God only saves people who work hard in front of God. This isn't true. God wants to save everyone. There is no one on Earth who God doesn't want to save. Pray that God will help you to see people the way He sees them; to see people who desperately need God's help to save them. And get into training yourself to see others like this. Their greatest need is for God to save them.

Day 11

- Read 1 Timothy 2:5-7

- Think through the following questions:

1. Paul said in v.4 that God desires for all people to come to a knowledge of the truth. What is the truth according to v.5-7?
2. What does it mean for Jesus Christ to be the mediator between God and mankind?
3. What was Paul appointed to be (v.7)?

- Training for Today:

- Followers of Jesus have the responsibility to both know and teach God's truth. Paul talks about it here. The reality is that the entire Bible is the truth of God! Train yourself in the truth today; learn God's truth better! Look up the Apostle's Creed. Think through it. Do you agree with what it says? Read God's word; ask God to help you to understand it better! God's truth is here for us to know Him better, and to love Him more.

Day 12

- Read 1 Timothy 2:8-10

- Think through the following questions:

1. Why is there a “therefore” at the start of these verses?
2. What does Paul say he wants men everywhere to do? What doesn’t he want them to do?
3. What does Paul say he wants women to do? What doesn’t he want them to do?

- Training for Today:

- Both sets of instructions are all about having a pure heart; being devoted to God. They are about guys worshipping God first and foremost, letting go of anger. They are about girls not focussing on attention outwardly looking good. Rather, girls are to focus on worshipping God and putting Him first. So, guy or girl, are you putting God first? Or is there something that is in the way of you worshipping Him? Pray about this today. Reflect over how you are living. Is God number 1 in your life? Would a friend who looks at how you live be able to say that He is?

Day 13

- Read 1 Timothy 2:11-15 (NB. Please pray carefully before reading this passage. This is a part of God’s word which we culturally *really* grind against!)

- Think through the following questions:

1. Under God’s word, *everyone* is a learner, but only some are also teachers. When it comes to preaching and teaching inside the church, what role are women given by God with respect to men?
2. How does Paul defend this approach to church teaching and preaching? (what two events in Genesis does he point to to explain God’s order for men and women’s roles?)
3. Look back at v.3-6. How are people saved?

- Training for Today:

- By no means is Paul saying that women can only be saved by having children! We see time and time again that there are women who can’t have children, or who don’t get married/re-married. Paul encourages women in these situations as well! Paul in these verses is reminding us that God created guys and girls specially with different roles to play in achieving His work. God made us all to be listeners and learners from His word. He made us all to be sharing His gospel with people who don’t know it yet. And He also made us with specific ways of fulfilling these roles. He made guys - not all, as we see in 1 Timothy 3, but some - to be teachers of His word in church. There are instances where girls do teach men in the Bible, but outside of the church. Girls aren’t to be silent in church - 1 Corinthians shows us that they are to participate in prophecy and prayer! God has made us with a purpose. We are here to share His word with a world that needs it! It’s not easy to always accept what God has to say. But He made us; it makes sense for us to

listen to His instructions on how we work! Pray about this. If you're a girl, how can you be better learning from God's word at Church? If you're a guy, how can you be better learning from God's word at Church? Part of the answer is in praying before going to church/youth. Read the Bible passage you'll be looking at there. Listen and take notes during the sermon/Bible talk. Ask questions afterwards.

Day 14

- Church/Youth Group - Passage Covered:

- What was the Talk about?: _____

What do I need to change? _____

Week 3 - (1 Timothy 3)

Day 15

- Read 1 Timothy 3

- Think through the following questions:

1. What are the things that “jump out” at you from this text - the things that are surprising or stick in your mind?
2. What questions do you have from reading these 16 verses? Write them down, pray over them and think through them over the next week. _____

_____?
3. Look at v.14-15 again. What is Paul’s main aim for writing this letter to Timothy?

- Training for Today:

- Think through who the Christian leaders in your life are and list them out. Are they good leaders? What makes them a good leader/bad leader? Do you want to become more like them in any particular way? Why or why not? The most important thing in following a leader is that they are following Jesus and becoming more and more like Him every day. What leaders do you follow that are like this? Pray for them. Thank God for them.

Day 16

- Read 1 Timothy 3:1-7

- Think through the following questions:

1. How does Paul describe the desire to become an overseer (a Church elder; people who are teachers of God’s word in the church)?
2. What *character* qualifications are required for being an overseer?
3. What *technical/skill* qualifications are required for being an overseer?

- Training for Today:

- One of the key things about overseers/Church leaders is that they are to be *above reproach* (v.2) and *have a good reputation with outsiders*. Both these are about the reputation of a Christian. These both summarise the qualifications of a Christian leader. But all Christians - leaders and followers alike - most importantly want to be like Jesus (who is the only one who ticks off this entire list perfectly!). Look through the list though. Are there any areas in your life which God and you need to work on? Pray about it. Talk to a leader about it. Figure out what you can do (or stop doing) to look more like Jesus!

Day 17

- Read 1 Timothy 3:8-10

- Think through the following questions:

1. What kind of men should be deacons (aka servants/workers in the church)? (NB. There is evidence of deaconesses throughout the New Testament. Deacon/ness is not a teaching role in the church. However, 1 Timothy 3 does not approach the topic).
2. What are the *character* requirements for a person being a deacon?
3. Look back at 1 Timothy 1:18-19a. What two things does Paul tell Timothy to hold onto to fight the battle well? Now back at 1 Timothy 3:9. Are there any similarities?

- Training for Today:

- As a Christian, how are you going with holding onto the faith with a clear conscience? Are you holding to the Christian faith as taught by God's word? Are you sharpening your conscience to be in line with what God says? The true Christian faith is awesome; there is good reason to hold firmly to it! "*God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*" (Romans 5:8). That's the essence of the true Christian faith; how good is that? Give thanks to God for this today. Spend more time looking into the great faith we have.

Day 18

- Read 1 Timothy 3:11-13

- Think through the following questions:

1. What are the requirements of a deacon's wife's character?
2. What similarities are there between the requirements on the deacon's household and the requirements on the overseer's household?
3. What does it mean to have "excellent standing and great assurance in faith in Christ Jesus"? (hint: look at v.7 to see what else Paul thinks is important when it comes to having a good standing).

- Training for Today:

- When it comes to Christian leadership, we can see that what happens in the home is important as well! As young adults/youth, we don't really have to worry about wives, husbands or deacons or anything like that. But what about how we are responding to our parents? They are given to us by God to help us to grow and be more like Jesus. Do you pray for your parents? Do you obey them and respect their authority?

Day 19

- Read 1 Timothy 3:14-15

- Think through the following questions:

1. What does Paul hope to do soon?
2. Why is Paul writing these instructions to Timothy?
3. How does Paul describe the church?

- Training for Today:

- Paul's description of what the church is all points towards his great hope and prayer, which He expresses in 1 Timothy 2:3-4. God wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth! The church is God's family; the people through whom He wants to share the truth and invite people to be saved. What things do you think are essential for the church to fulfil this role? What things do you think don't matter as much?

Day 20

- Read 1 Timothy 3:14-16

- Think through the following questions:

1. Paul says that the church of the living God is the _____
2. There are six lines in the church "confession" of the faith. The first two talk about the revelation of Jesus, involving His coming to Earth, and His resurrection from the dead. What do the second two lines refer to?
3. How are God's people powered to live out the way God wants us to?

- Training for Today:

- This is the truth! These six lines of an early Christian confession are so helpful to us. Here's a way to train yourself in the truth: read them *every day* for the next week, memorising them and praying over them!

*He (Jesus) appeared in the flesh,
was vindicated by the Spirit,
was seen by angels,
was preached among the nations,
was believed on in the world,
was taken up in glory.*

Amen!

Day 21

- Church/Youth Group - Passage Covered:

- What was the Talk about?: _____

What do I need to change? _____

Week 4 - (1 Timothy 4)

Day 22

- Read 1 Timothy 4

- Think through the following questions:

1. What are the things that “jump out” at you from this text - the things that are surprising or stick in your mind?
2. What questions do you have from reading these 16 verses? Write them down, pray over them and think through them over the next week. _____

_____?
_____?

3. How does Paul say Timothy is to express leadership in the Ephesian church?

- Training for Today:

- There are two different kinds of teachers in the Christian Church. There are good leaders who teach God’s truth and emphasise God’s authority. And there are bad leaders, who teach anything but God’s truth, and emphasise their own authority. When we are being taught, it is almost like a diet; are you “eating healthily”? Are you being taught from the Bible? Or are there Christian teachers in your life who don’t teach the truth of God? Take some time out to think through what you have heard at school assemblies/chapels, or on the radio, or on TV, or at youth or church. Has what you have heard been God’s truth, emphasising God’s authority? Or are you hearing any bad teachers? Train in hearing God’s truth.

Day 23

- Read 1 Timothy 4:1-3

- Think through the following questions:

1. Who says that in later times some will abandon the faith? (Look also at Matthew 24:23-24 and Mark 13:22)
2. After abandoning the faith, who do these false teachers follow and teach?
3. What is their false teaching?

- Training for Today:

- These false teachers claim that we can only become godly by rejecting/abstaining from certain things altogether! They are saying “to become godly you have to reject (for example) *bacon*.” The only thing required for godliness is said in 1 Timothy 3:16 - the mystery of godliness is great; godliness comes from Jesus! If anyone ever tells you that you can become godly by any way aside from Jesus,

they are lying to you. We become godly by believing in Jesus and following Him. Know this truth. Remember this truth. Live this truth.

Day 24

- Read 1 Timothy 4:4-6

- Think through the following questions:

1. How much of what God has created is good?
2. When (i.e. in what circumstances) do you think we should say “grace” (i.e. give thanks to God)?
3. What things should Christians be nourished on/be brought up in/follow?

- Training for Today:

- God made all things good! As we see throughout God’s word, though, everything in creation has been hijacked by sin. The world is broken, and many things are not in their right place. Food is good, but over-indulging in food (i.e. excess) or avoiding (i.e. anorexia) or even demonising food (!) is wrong. Sex is good, but sex outside of a male-female marriage (adultery), or fantasising about sex (lust, pornography, etc) or even demonising sex is wrong. Think about some other things today - e.g. entertainment, talking, studying, etc. They are good because God made them. In what circumstances are they wrong?

Day 25

- Read 1 Timothy 4:7-10

- Think through the following questions:

1. What is Timothy told to have nothing to do with?
2. What is Timothy told to focus on (train in) instead?
3. What is the benefit of godliness?

- Training for Today:

- These verses are the whole reason this series of devotionals is called “1 Timothy Training”! Followers of Jesus are to train themselves in godliness. How do we do this? Through disciplined time reading God’s word and praying to God! Physical training requires discipline and planning - and we see it’s good! And the same goes for godliness. It is awesome that God has saved us (v.10)! For the rest of eternity, followers of Jesus will be godly. It makes sense to train in how to be godly! Take some time to plan your week. When can you take time to train to be godly daily? How much time can you take? How can your timetable show that it is a priority?

Day 26

- Read 1 Timothy 4:11-14

- Think through the following questions:

1. Fill in the blanks! "Don't let anyone _____ on you because you are _____, but set an example for the _____ in speech, in _____, in love, in _____ and in _____."
2. What does Paul say Timothy should devote himself to?
3. What does Paul say Timothy shouldn't neglect?

- Training for Today:

- It's easy today to think that people won't listen to you/respect your opinion when you're young because "you don't have the experience". Experience is certainly important and worthy listening to - and we should all try to learn from our elders! In Timothy's case, he was told to break the mould. Paul told him to live a life of godliness that meant people should listen to him. And what about you? How can you live so that, even though you are young, people should listen to you and follow your example?

Day 27

- Read 1 Timothy 4:15-16

- Think through the following questions:

1. What does Paul mean when he says "these matters"? (look back at v.12-14)
2. What does Paul want people to see in Timothy's life and faith?
3. Why should Timothy watch his own life and beliefs/doctrine?

- Training for Today:

- Look at your own life and beliefs. Do they line up with the great and awesome gospel of how God has saved you? If someone was to look at what you believed and how you lived, would they think "*Wow! I don't know exactly what they believe. But they are different. They live as if it matters.*" Or would they go "*What's the difference?*" Take some time out to think and pray about this today. Your life could mean someone else will be saved by God for eternity!

Day 28

- Church/Youth Group - Passage Covered:

- What was the Talk about?: _____

What do I need to change? _____

Week 5 - (1 Timothy 5)

Day 29

- Read 1 Timothy 5

- Think through the following questions:

1. What are the things that “jump out” at you from this text - the things that are surprising or stick in your mind?
2. What questions do you have from reading these 25 verses? Write them down, pray over them and think through them over the next week. _____

_____?
3. How important is it for Christians to carefully think through their relationships and to be sure to help other Christians in their responsibility areas?

- Training for Today:

- Write out a list of the 10 people who are most important to you. Why are they important to you? How do you care for them? How would God want you to care for them? What can you pray about for them? Put this into action today!

Day 30

- Read 1 Timothy 5:1-2

- Think through the following questions:

1. How is Timothy to treat the older man?
2. How is Timothy told to relate to the younger woman?
3. What kind of image does Paul give us of relationships in the Church?

- Training for Today:

- Take some time to think through how you relate to your fellow Christians. Do you see them as annoying, or stupid, or frustrating? It is easy to find other people difficult at least some of the time. But even the most annoying Christian guy or girl you can think of is someone that Jesus died for and that He loves dearly! Think about some of the Christians in your life; do you show them the respect, love and care that Paul is talking about here? Train yourself to think of other Christians in this way, and to care for them as Paul does!

Day 31

- Read 1 Timothy 5:3-8

- Think through the following questions:

1. Which widows deserve to be supported by the church?

2. Paul also says that some widows *shouldn't* be supported by the church. What responsibility does the family have to a widow?
3. Does Paul think it is important to support all widows financially as the church?

- Training for Today:

- It's hard to relate to this at times; few of us are widows! Think through how you care for your parents here though. Paul says in v.4 and v.8, if we don't care for our own families, we aren't living out our faith. He even goes as far as to say that believers who don't care for their family are *worse* than unbelievers! Honouring our father and mother *doesn't* mean ignoring or neglecting God with our time and resources. However, it does mean recognising that they are God's priority too! And some of us have older grandparents or even great-grandparents! Are you caring for them? Are you showing them love and attention? How can you be showing God's love to your family?

Day 32

- Read 1 Timothy 5:9-16

- Think through the following questions:

1. What qualifications does Paul put onto true widows who will offer service in the church?
2. What is Paul concerned about with younger widows, which means he doesn't want them to officially offer service in the church?
3. How have some of the younger widows behaved?

- Training for Today:

- Paul also spends time thinking through the roles that widows play in the church. Again, it is hard for us given most of us aren't widows! But think through your lifestyle. Do you allow yourself to be idle? Do you talk about non-essential things as a priority? What do you think about and do in your spare time? In the time when no-one else is necessarily watching? When it's just you with others and no parents or teachers around? We don't have to be unemployed or not in school to spend time doing non-essentials which are bad. Re-train yourself in how you use your spare time and alone time.

Day 33

- Read 1 Timothy 5:17-21

- Think through the following questions:

1. Paul says that the leaders are worthy of "double" honour. What two ways are we to honour Christian leaders who work hard at preaching and teaching?

2. Paul quotes from the Old Testament (Deuteronomy 25:4) and from the New Testament (Luke 10:7). What does this tell us about which parts of the Bible Paul thinks are important?
3. Paul instructs Timothy how to assess an accusation against a Christian leader. What steps does Paul list for Timothy to follow?

- Training for Today:

- Christian leaders are very important to us! As we've seen in earlier chapters of 1 Timothy, becoming a Christian leader isn't something you can just decide to do! Only a select few people in the world should be Christian leaders. And this role is so important, that Christian leaders deserve a special kind of respect. They deserve to be supported/paid. They deserve to be honoured for their hard work (this assumes hard work). And their character must be taken seriously; if they sin, then it must be approached. Pray for your Christian leaders; pray that they will be faithfully working hard. Pray for God to protect their character. Talk with your family; how much do we value our Christian leaders? Do we support them in their work? Do you support your Christian leaders - especially your pastor - where you can?

Day 34

- Read 1 Timothy 5:22-25

- Think through the following questions:

1. Paul's concern over who is in leadership continues. How should Timothy approach appointing leaders?
2. Paul tells Timothy specifically to drink a little wine. What reasons do you think Timothy might not have wanted to drink any wine?
3. Are all sins/good works obvious immediately?

- Training for Today:

- When Paul talks to Timothy and specifically tells him to drink a little wine, he definitely isn't telling him to become drunk! 1 Timothy 3 confirms this. Wine did have health purposes in the ancient world - that lines up with Paul's advice. And there are lots of good reasons to not drink much alcohol today. But there is one very, very bad reason to not drink alcohol. Look back at 1 Timothy 4:1-5. Based on this, what decisions will you make about alcohol? How will you talk to others about what they drink? How will you plan for when you are exposed at parties or social events to alcohol? This is something that is quite good to chat with your parents or a leader about.

Day 35

- Church/Youth Group - Passage Covered:

- What was the Talk about?: _____

What do I need to change? _____

Week 6 - (1 Timothy 6)

Day 36

- Read 1 Timothy 6

- Think through the following questions:

1. What are the things that “jump out” at you from this text - the things that are surprising or stick in your mind?
2. What questions do you have from reading these 21 verses? Write them down, pray over them and think through them over the next week. _____

_____?
3. Where are Christians supposed to look for their contentment?

- Training for Today:

- Take some time out to write up a list of all the things that the world has to offer that you'd like - it could be money, or popularity, or great achievements. Now draw up a list of every gift that God offers (e.g. look at 1 Peter 1:1-12). Which one looks better? Train yourself daily to look at what God has on offer! It was C.S. Lewis (the author of the Chronicles of Narnia) who said *“We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.”*

Day 37

- Read 1 Timothy 6:1-2a

- Think through the following questions:

1. How should Christian workers regard their masters?
2. Why should they think of their masters like this?
3. How should Christians work when they have Christian masters?

- Training for Today:

- We can see that Paul's biggest concern when it comes to work is something more important than the work or than the person who is doing the work! Paul's greatest concern is with God's name and His teaching being respected and honoured. Look at how you approach your work - it might be at school, or at home, or at a job. Would someone who *knows* you're a Christian think that Christianity is good by how you work? Or would they not want to hear more because of how you

work? Talk to God; ask Him to help you walk the Christian life as well as to talk the Christian life.

Day 38

- Read 1 Timothy 6:2b-5

- Think through the following questions:

1. What things do you think Paul means in v.2? (hint: look onto v.3)
2. What does the kind of teacher who rejects Jesus have an interest in?
3. What does the false teacher think godliness/godly behaviour is for?

- Training for Today:

- In 1 Timothy we've spent a lot of time looking at false teachers. It is a big and scary issue for any followers of Jesus. For one of the last times in "1 Timothy Training", think about what kinds of teachers of God's word you have in your life. Do you have people who teach about Jesus Christ, who is Lord and Saviour? Do they teach that He is God, that He died and rose to life again? Do they teach that godliness means accepting this, and telling others about Jesus? Do they teach that accepting Jesus means difficulties and suffering in this life? Train yourself to hear the truth about Jesus today more and more; read God's word. Talk to your parents/youth leaders. Listen carefully to what anyone says when they are teaching about Jesus and the Christian faith.

Day 39

- Read 1 Timothy 6:6-12

- Think through the following questions:

1. Fill in the blanks! _____ + _____ = great gain.
2. What can we take with us out of the world?
3. Based on this, how should we approach money?

- Training for Today:

- When Jesus told us to pray to God to ask for our daily bread, He meant we ask God to sustain us with exactly what we need. God will give us exactly what we need; realising this is to be content. Paul tells Timothy that he shouldn't chase after money. Instead, he is to run towards true godliness and faith! He is to take hold of the eternal life God has won for him. And what about you? What are you chasing after? Where does your mind wander during the day? Are you chasing things other than God? Talk to God about it. Ask Him to help you to be chasing after Him everyday!

Day 40

- Read 1 Timothy 6:13-16

- Think through the following questions:

1. What does God give?
2. Paul says that Jesus gave the good confession in front of Pontius Pilate. Look at when Jesus was talking with Pilate (John 18:33-38, but also in Matthew 27, Mark 15 and Luke 23). What does Jesus tell Pilate about Himself?
3. When will God bring Jesus Christ into the world again?

- Training for Today:

- In v.15-16, Paul writes a great few lines about who God is! God is the one true authority; the one true King. He is King to everyone who is King, Prime Minister or President. He is immortal. He cannot be approached on our terms. He is only approached through Jesus Christ. This is a fire-breathing, mountain-melting, all powerful God. And He loves us and has saved us. How good is that? Take some time to tell God exactly how you feel when you think about how awesome He is, and how He has treated us.

Day 41

- Read 1 Timothy 6:17-21

- Think through the following questions:

1. Where are people who are rich to put their hope? Why?
2. Paul has entrusted Timothy with the great gospel of Jesus Christ. How does he instruct Timothy to care for the gospel?
3. Timothy is told to avoid irreverent, empty speech and contradictions which come from "knowledge". These are in opposition to the gospel. What has happened to people who profess this "knowledge"?

- Training for Today:

- If you are a follower of Jesus Christ, you have been entrusted with the great gospel of God. This isn't a treasure to hide away and protect. This isn't a treasure that needs to be modified or "polished". This is a gift that needs to keep on giving! The great and glorious gospel of God needs to be protected from being changed. And you are now a part of it's protection! If you hear someone who claims to teach the gospel, but teaches something completely different, ask them about it afterwards. Challenge them on it; ask them to defend it from the Bible. Defend God's gospel. Because if a person hears a different gospel, they aren't saved by God. They need God's true gospel - the one taught from the Bible.

Day 42

- Church/Youth Group - Passage Covered:

- What was the Talk about?: _____

What do I need to change? _____

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