

HEROES

OF THE

FAITH

Ordinary Men and Women . . .
Super Ordinary Power

47

TIMOTHY-AN EXAMPLE FOR BELIEVERS

HEROES OF THE FAITH CURRICULUM—2012

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Arlington † Metroplex
Taking church to the people



47

TIMOTHY-AN EXAMPLE FOR BELIEVERS

Memory Verse:

Preach the word. Be ready to serve God in good times and bad. Correct people's mistakes. Warn them. Cheer them up with words of hope. Be very patient as you do these things. Teach them carefully. (2 Timothy 4:2 NIV)

Lesson Goals:

#1 - Understand how ordinary Timothy was

#2 - Discover what obedience led Timothy to do

#3 - Desire to let God do extraordinary things in the life of the ordinary student

Audience:

Young, un-churched learners

Adaptable for all ages, including adults (See **For more training** on Activities page)

Scripture to Study:

Acts 16:1-5

Acts 19:1-41

1 Timothy

2 Timothy

Who can tell me what a hero is? A hero is someone who is courageous and brave and compassionate. There are heroes and heroines in the Bible. All of them are brave and courageous and more, but not in the way you would expect.

Our hero: Timothy

His Heroic Feat: Sets an Example for Believers

Setting an example for believers may not sound very heroic, but let's look at the facts and see what you think when you have heard the whole story!

We have been away from Paul for a few weeks in our lessons, but let's review a little. Do you remember that Paul and Barnabas took their first journey to strengthen the believers who had been scattered? When Paul went on the second journey, he met a young man in Lystra. The young man's name was Timothy. Timothy's mom was a Jew, but she was also a believer in Jesus Christ. Timothy's father was Greek. Timothy had a sincere faith. He had learned it from childhood as his grandmother, Lois, and his mother, Eunice, taught him the sacred writings. Everyone in the area where he lived spoke well of Timothy, so when Paul journeyed on, he took Timothy along.

Timothy completed that second journey with Paul. He even began the third journey with him, but was sent to other churches along the way to multiply the work and to bring words of encouragement. Ultimately, Paul sent Timothy to pastor the church in Ephesus. Ephesus was a wicked, evil city. They worshipped the idol of a goddess there that they believed had fallen to them from heaven. And instead of being happy that many people had listened to Paul and believed in the one, true God, there were people in Ephesus who were angry. You see, there were businessmen who made small statues of the goddess and they were losing money!

Paul understood the difficulties that young Timothy faced as the pastor of a church in this evil city. Paul wrote two letters to Timothy to encourage him and to instruct him. Paul called Timothy his "beloved son" and his "true son in the faith." There was a special spiritual bond between these two; Paul, the wise, spiritual father figure and Timothy, the younger son Paul would never have, but the one he had nurtured in the faith.

Paul knew the evils of Ephesus and the world around them. Paul gave Timothy specific instructions on the working of the church and how to choose men for the work of the church. Paul also warned Timothy in both letters that the day would come when people wouldn't want to hear the truth. They would surround themselves with people who told them what they wanted to hear. Paul instructed Timothy, "But you, man of

God, run away from all those things. Instead, live in the right way, serve God, have faith, love, patience and gentleness. Paul encouraged Timothy in both letters, as well. Over and over Paul told Timothy to fight the good fight, to remember what he had learned of God. Paul even encouraged Timothy by telling him, "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." (1 Timothy 4:12 NIV) Then Paul went on to remind Timothy to be careful about how he lived and what he taught, "If you continue to live and teach rightly, you will save both yourself and those who listen to you." (1 Timothy 4:16 NCV)

As Paul approached the end of his life, his words to Timothy had an urgency in them. He said, "God did not give us a spirit that makes us afraid but a spirit of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed to tell people about our Lord Jesus, and do not be ashamed of me, in prison for the Lord. But suffer with me for the Good News." (2 Timothy 1:7-8 NCV) Paul urged Timothy not to become stained with the sin that surrounded him; those who make themselves clean from evil are the ones used by God. (2 Timothy 2:21) Paul was clear . . . The way to remain unspotted from the world revolved around remembering the things that had been learned about God, allowing God-breathed Scripture to teach and correct and to continue preaching the Good News!



YOU CAN BE A HERO, TOO!

When you live a life of faith in Jesus Christ, you don't have to leap tall buildings to be a hero. Timothy set an example for believers.

Our memory verse says, "Preach the word. Be ready to serve God in good times and bad. Correct people's mistakes. Warn them. Cheer them up with words of hope. Be very patient as you do these things. Teach them carefully. (2 Timothy 4:2 NIV) The apostle Paul had served God in good times and bad. He encouraged Timothy, his son in the faith, to do the same. This can only be done when you live in a way that sets an example for believers to follow. Are you setting that example? Have you accepted the Good News of Jesus as truth in your own life? Let's talk.

PRE-SCHOOL!

LESSON

Who can tell me what a hero is? A hero is someone who is courageous and brave and compassionate. There are heroes and heroines in the Bible. All of them are brave and courageous and more, but not in the way you would expect.

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Do you remember that Paul and Barnabas took their first journey to strengthen the believers who had been scattered? When Paul went on the second journey, he met a young man in Lystra. The young man's name was Timothy. Timothy's mom was a Jew, but she was also a believer in Jesus Christ. Timothy's father was Greek. Timothy also believed in God. Timothy had learned about God from his grandmother, Lois, and his mother, Eunice. Timothy had been a good boy and now he was a godly young man. Everyone in the area where he lived spoke well of Timothy, so when Paul journeyed on, he took Timothy along.

Timothy completed that second journey with Paul. Timothy started the third journey with Paul, but was sent to other churches to help them. Timothy finally went to be the pastor at the church in Ephesus. Ephesus was a wicked, evil city. They worshipped other gods, but some people had heard about Jesus and believed.

Paul knew it would be hard for Timothy in this evil city. Paul wrote two letters to Timothy. Paul called Timothy his "beloved son" and his "true son in the faith."

Paul told Timothy, "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." (1 Timothy 4:12 NIV) Then Paul went on to remind Timothy to be careful about how he lived and what he taught, "If you continue to live and teach rightly, you will save both yourself and those who listen to you." (1 Timothy 4:16 NCV)

Have you ever wondered if you could do anything for God? You don't have to wait until you are old and gray! What are some ways you can begin today?

ACTIVITIES!

- Memory Verse Activity - Print the memory verses on light colored paper, leaving a wide border. Using green and brown paper, tear uneven pieces and paste around the memory verse to look like camouflage. Talk about how this verse is our "marching orders" as we serve the Lord.
- Continue adding heroes' names and heroic feats to your "Heroes Banner."
- Sing "I'm in the Lord's Army," "Onward Christian Soldiers," "I Will," or other praise songs related to the lesson.
- Bring trail mix for the snack.
- **For more training:** Read and discuss 1 Timothy 2:1-7.
- **For more training:** Read, compare and discuss 1 Timothy 4:1-10 and 2 Timothy 3:1-7, 14-17.
- **For more training:** Review 1 Timothy 4:12.
- **For more training:** Read and discuss 2 Timothy 1:7-12.

Preach the word.
Be ready to serve God
in good times and bad.
Correct people's mistakes.
Warn them. Cheer them up
with words of hope.
Be very patient
as you do these things.
Teach them carefully.

2 Timothy 4:2

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HERO IN TRAINING

Timothy-An Example for Believers

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Taking church to the people

HERO TRAINING!

Scripture:

Acts 16:1-5, Acts 19:1-41, 1Timothy, 2 Timothy

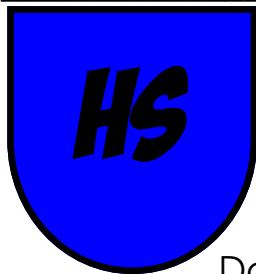
Memory verse:

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Our Hero: _____

What did our hero do that was so heroic? _____

What can you do to be a **Hero of the Faith**? _____



What power do Heroes of the Faith possess?

Do you have the power? _____

Review the lesson and the memory verse. Discuss the memory verse in light of the lesson. _____

HIDDEN MESSAGE!

Can you crack the code to find the Hidden Message?
 Using clues from the memory verse at the bottom of the page, fill in the blanks to discover who Paul sent to pastor in Ephesus.

1)	— — — — —	<input type="text"/>	— — — — —
2)	— — — — —	<input type="text"/>	— — — — —
3)	— — — — —	<input type="text"/>	— — — — —
4)	— — — — —	<input type="text"/>	— — — — —
5)	— — — — —	<input type="text"/>	— — — — —
6)	— — — — —	<input type="text"/>	— — — — —
7)	— — — — —	<input type="text"/>	— — — — —

- 1) _____.
- 2) Be ready to _____.
- 3) _____.
- 4) _____ people's
- 5) _____. Warn them.
 Cheer them up with words of hope.
 Be very patient as you do these things.
- 6) _____.
- 7) _____. (2 Timothy 4:2 NIV)

WORD

SEARCH!

S E T A N E X A M P L E B
N H G O D A C C E A T C E
O T E L P I L I H U R I L
L I P Y H A J R A L E N I
D A U Y H T O M I T E U E
O F P P O S U S E H P E V
T N I I G A R P S L A N E
H I A N Y B N L I E V E D
T N L I S C E I G N U N E
U O A T E V Y S N R B A F
O S I O L I P O I H T E L
D E M A H S A E B T N O D
O U E H T A H L A D R C W
G R D A O R T R E S E D N
B T O L Y S P I R I T U G

- Paul

- Timothy

- Lois

- Eunice

- true son in faith

- journey

- Ephesus

- set an example

- don't be ashamed

HIDDEN MESSAGE!

Answer Page

Can you crack the code to find the Hidden Message?
Using clues from the memory verse at the bottom of the page, fill in the blanks to discover who Paul sent to pastor in Ephesus.

- 1) p r e a c h **I** h e W o r d
- 2) s e r v e G o d **I** n
- 3) g o o d t i **M** e s a n d b a d
- 4) c **O** r r e c t
- 5) m i s **I** a k e s
- 6) t e a c **H** t h e m
- 7) c a r e f u l l **Y**

1) Preach the word.

2) Be ready to serve God in

3) good times and bad.

4) Correct people's

5) mistakes. Warn them.

Cheer them up with words of hope.

Be very patient as you do these things.

6) Teach them

7) carefully. (2 Timothy 4:2 NIV)

WORD

SEARCH!

Answer Page



- Paul

- Timothy

- Lois

- Eunice

- true son in faith

- journey

- Ephesus

- set an example

- don't be ashamed