

# Lessons From I Timothy

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## Treat People Like Family

(I Ti 5:1-2)

### INTRODUCTION

1. Good Evening,
  - a. Greeting...
2. Series of “Lessons From I Timothy.”
  - a. Last week we examined “Preachers Trained In The Words Of Faith.”
    - i. **I Ti 4:6** “If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed.”<sup>1</sup>
  - b. This week we are going to look at “Treat People Like Family.”
    - i. **I Ti 5:1-2** “Do not rebuke an older man but encourage him as you would a father, younger men as brothers, 2 older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity.”
3. Paul having exhorted Timothy to pay close attention to himself and the doctrine now turns Timothy’s attention to how his is to treat different age groups that need correction.
  - a. How to treat the older men and women that need correction.
  - b. How to treat the younger men and women who need correction.
4. With these things in mind let us examine our text now.

### I. Treat Older Men Like Fathers

- A. Don’t sharply rebuke rather correct using encouraging out of respect for older men
  1. This Greek word for “rebuke” is not the typical word translated rebuke.
    - i. This word is “ἐπιπλήσσω” whereas the typical word is “ἐπιτιμάω.”
      - a. This word is only found here whereas the typical word is found 29 times in the N.T.
    - ii. This word for “rebuke” means to censure severely or angrily i.e. punish angrily.
      - a. Compared to the typical word which means to admonish or warn forcefully.
  2. Paul tells Timothy do not give an older man a “tongue lashing” but rather encourage him to righteousness out of respect for his age and wisdom.
    - i. Why, this is simply disrespectful.
      - a. **Lv 19:32** “You shall stand up before the gray head and honor the face of an old man, and you shall fear your God: I am the LORD.”
    - ii. The use of the word “sharp rebuke” implies the older man in question is in the wrong in some way but Timothy was to use encouragement to bring the man along out of respect.

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<sup>1</sup> All Scriptures are taken from the ESV unless otherwise noted. If other translations are used this is not necessarily an endorsement of the translation.

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- B. Paul is not censuring Timothy's ability to contend for the faith
  - 1. Paul would be contradicting himself if this was the case.
    - i. **II Ti 4:2** "preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching."
    - ii. **Ti 1:13** "This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith"
- C. Thus...
  - 1. Paul is telling Timothy as you preach the whole counsel of God and reprove and rebuke do so in the same manner you would your physical father, i.e. with respect.

### II. Treat Younger Men Like Brothers

- A. Don't sharply rebuke rather correct using encouragement out of brotherly love for younger men
  - 1. Paul tells Timothy to not give a younger man a "tongue lashing" but rather encourage him to righteousness out of brotherly love.
    - i. **Ro 12:10** "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."
    - ii. **He 13:1** "Let brotherly love continue."
  - 2. Sometimes there can develop a "head-butting" competition between young men based on immaturity.
    - i. Paul wants Timothy here to understand he is not to strike out against a young man that is his brother even if he is in the wrong but correct him in gentleness.
      - a. **Co 4:6** "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person."
- B. Thus...
  - 1. Paul is telling Timothy as you preach the truth and reprove and rebuke do so in a brotherly love manner as you would your own physical brother.

### III. Treat Older Women Like Mothers

- A. Don't sharply rebuke rather correct using encouragement out of respect and honor for older women
  - 1. Paul tells Timothy to make sure he doesn't give any of the older women a "tongue lashing" when they are in need of correction but instead encourage her to righteousness and thus showing her honor.
    - i. Mothers have always been held in high esteem.
      - a. **Pr 31:28** "Her children rise up and call her blessed..."
      - b. **Jn 19:25-27** "When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" 27 Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home."

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2. Any man, preacher or not, that does not give an older motherly woman the due respect and honor she is do is pitiful at best.
  - i. Paul wants Timothy to understand he must not correct an older motherly woman with harness but rather with gentleness and honor.
    - a. **I Pt 3:15** “but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect”

B. Thus...

1. Paul is telling Timothy as you preach the Holy Writ reprovng and rebuking when needed do so by encouraging the older women to righteousness with respect and honor.

#### IV. Treat Younger Women Like Sisters

A. Don't sharply rebuke rather correct using encouragement out of an unquestionably pure heart

1. Not many would argue, I would think, that Paul is pointing to the specifics of morality here with younger women.
  - i. It is only with this group that Paul gives specific insight into the “how” of the correction.
  - ii. Other places Paul leaves it as “understood” by Timothy.
    - a. Paul tells Timothy that he must make certain that when he corrects a younger woman he better not give her a reason to think it was done out of any impure reason.
2. Young preachers/men who have the need to correct a young woman must do so with caution.

B. Thus...

1. Paul tells Timothy “Conduct yourself in a manner which will protect the reputation of the younger women, the precious Gospel of Christ, and yourself”<sup>2</sup>

#### CONCLUSION

1. Brethren through all this we see a central theme “treat others as you would want to be treated.”
  - a. We are to follow the golden rule (**Mt 7:12**).
2. Question: Are you treating those you need to correct with respect, love, honor, and purity?
  - a. If so continue therein and grow thereby.
  - b. If not why not?

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<sup>2</sup> Notes on I Timothy by WVBS pg 76

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### 3. Invitation

- a. For those that are Christians but are not living for Christ repent by confessing your sins to God that He may forgive you and dedicate your life/time back to Him.
  - i. **I Jn 1:7, 9** "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin...9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
- b. For those that are not Christians or for those that think they are Christians and want to know for sure notice what is required to become a child of God or Christian according to God and God only.
  - i. Hear/Study **Rom 10:17; II Tim 2:15**
  - ii. Have Faith In Jesus **Jn 3:16; 8:24**
  - iii. Repent/Turn To God **Ac 17:30; Lk 24:47**
  - iv. Confess Jesus As Lord **Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9**
  - v. Immersed For The Forgiveness of Sins **Ac 2:38; 22:16; I Pt 3:21**
  - vi. Live A Faithful Life **I Jn 1:7; Eph 5:8**