

CHURCH SCHOOL LESSONS
JULY 12, 2020

This week our Bible reading comes from Paul's second letter to Timothy. Life can be hard, and we all need a little encouragement. This week, we are going to think more about encouraging ourselves and others. I am going to write out some words. I want you to circle every third word and find the verse that is hidden in the puzzle.

Here in so joy house continue so that encouraging who was each inside road other those of and talk to building fruit of each Spirit wind other friend who up kind with just peace stay like sure comfort you but patient are make God doing live good already each other. (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

In this week's Bible story, Paul helps Timothy through a hard time. Turn in your Bibles to 2 Timothy. First and Second Timothy are toward the end of the New Testament. This is another one of Paul's letters. This is the second letter Paul wrote to Timothy. He wrote it while he was in prison. Read 2 Timothy 1:3-7.

Where does Paul say Timothy's faith comes from? How do you think this might be encouraging to Timothy?

When Paul wrote the letter to Timothy, Timothy was having a difficult time. We don't know what was going on, but Paul could tell that Timothy needed some encouragement from a mentor. Paul was also having a difficult time – he was in prison! Paul had been arrested for preaching the gospel. He might have needed some encouragement too.

What could Timothy say to Paul?

Do you think he would have questions for Paul?

What could Timothy write to Paul? What would you write if you were writing a letter to Paul?

If you were discouraged, who would you like to receive a message from? What could someone say to you that would be encouraging?

If we practice giving and receiving encouragement with one another we are going to be leaders through our words.

On a piece of paper, write something positive about yourself. Now I want you to give your piece of paper to other members of your family and have them write something positive about you. After everyone in your family has added something I want you to look at your paper. Are the things that your family members wrote about you uplifting? Do you think it is easy to think of something positive about other people?

While Paul was encouraging Timothy Paul talks about Timothy's mother, Eunice and his grandmother, Lois. They passed their Christian faith to Timothy by teaching him when he was a child. Why do you think Paul mentions Eunice and Lois?

We all have a family tree that shows how various members of our family are related to us. These people pass down a lot to us, some things are biological (such as eye color or height) and some things are non-biological (such as where we like to eat and the sports we like to play). What characteristics have been passed down to you?

We all also have a faith family tree. The people in our faith family tree might or might not be related to us. Timothy received his faith from his mother and grandmother, but other people, such as pastors, friends, and teachers can pass faith to us too. Think about who is in your faith family tree. How did you first come to know about God's love for you? Who would you put on your faith family tree?

Everyone who follows Jesus learned about him from somebody. If the people in your tree are still in your life, be sure to thank them for passing on the gift of faith.

Do you remember the Bible memory verse from last week? **God didn't give us a spirit that is timid, but one that is powerful, loving and self-controlled. (2 Timothy 1:7)** I would like to you write the verse on a strip of paper and roll it up like a scroll. Let's pretend our scroll is a letter from Paul giving us encouragement. Whenever we are discouraged, we can look at the scroll and be encouraged.

Did you get all the titles of the books written on your Bible Library? The books on the bottom shelf are Hebrews, James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude and Revelation. This is the last set of books in our Bible Library. I would like you to continue working to remember the books of the Bible. Now you have a completed Library to help you remember.

Let's finish up with a prayer. Thank you God for giving us examples of young leaders like Timothy. Help us to be encouraging to others and help to spread the encouraging news of God's love for everyone. Keep us safe as we continue to enjoy this summer time. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Let's close with a prayer. Thank you God for giving us examples of young leaders like Timothy. Guide us to be young leaders too. Teach us the ways to help those around us learn about the lessons that Jesus taught us. Keep us safe this summer as we travel and meet with our families. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.