

Timothy Teaches

Paul was a great man of God. He traveled to many places telling people about Jesus. Sometimes people were excited to learn about Jesus and God's love but sometimes people didn't want to hear about Jesus because they believed in other things. Sometimes people got very mad at Paul for trying to teach them about Jesus, so mad that they had him beaten or thrown into jail. But no matter what happened to Paul, he kept telling people and spreading God's love to everyone.

One day, Paul was telling people about Jesus in a city call Lystra. There in the crowd were two ladies named Lois and Eunice. Lois was Eunice's mother. They were Jews who loved God. They listened to Paul and believed what he told them about Jesus. They left that day and lived their life the way God wanted them to live, and they taught Eunice's son Timothy all about Jesus.

The next time Paul traveled to Lystra; Timothy was a little older. Lois and Eunice had been raising Timothy telling him the good news of Jesus and now Timothy was hearing it from Paul. Timothy knew in his heart that he needed to be telling people about Jesus just like Paul was doing so he became Paul's helper. He left his mother and grandmother and started to travel with Paul everywhere he went. He listened to Paul speak and he watched Paul as he kept telling people about Jesus. He watched as Paul kept loving people even when they did horrible things to him. Timothy learned about God just by being with Paul. Sometimes, Paul would even send Timothy on special missions. When Paul would travel to different places, he would help them to start churches. After he would leave those places, Paul would write letters to the people in the new churches to check on them and tell them he was praying for them and their new church. Sometimes Paul would send Timothy to deliver those letters or to check with the people to see that they received their letters.

After a while, Timothy was ready to start doing some of the things Paul was doing all by himself and there were times he had to do things by himself because Paul had been thrown in prison. Paul didn't want Timothy to wait for him to get out of prison so they could go places together. He wanted Timothy to keep going and keep telling people even though Paul himself wasn't able to go with him. When Paul was stuck in prison, he would write letters, he would pray, and he would tell other prisoners and the guards about Jesus. From prison Paul wrote 2 very important letters to Timothy. Those letters became part of the bible. They are called 1 Timothy and 2 Timothy. In those letters Paul encouraged Timothy to do what God was calling him to do. Paul knew that some people would listen to Timothy and some people would not listen. Some people wouldn't like what Timothy had to say and be angry and some people would think Timothy was too young to know what he was talking about. Paul didn't want Timothy to get discouraged and want to quit. Paul's letters were to help Timothy stay strong and remember all the things that God had promised them.

Timothy started learning about Jesus at home from his mother and grandmother when he was very young. Then God had big plans to use him to travel the world with Paul and then by himself. Because Timothy was willing to do what God wanted him to do, many people became part of the family of God.