

APPLICATION

Within this last section of Paul's first letter to Timothy we find multiple applications for practical living. What are some applications that you noticed in this text?

Do you communicate *honor* to the servant-leaders of the church?

How do you communicate your differences and/or offenses?

Do you jump to conclusions when others share gossip?

How do you handle discouraging news shared about someone else?

How does God's Word encourage you to handle it?

How do you practically "keep yourself free from sin"? (5:22)

Are you respectful to both your boss and those under you?

Can they clearly see that You honor the name of God? (6:1)

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE

Throughout this series in First Timothy I have labored to highlight and teach principles of good Bible Study methods. I pray that they have been encouraging and challenging and that you find increased joy in the study and reading of God's Word.

The fourth and final step in Bible Study Methods is **Application**. This is where the rubber meets the road. No Biblical truth is fully learned until it is practically lived. Application begins with prayer. Simply ask God to open up His Word and make you more like His Son, Jesus.

Soaked and steeped in prayer, Application proceeds to asking questions: *What does this truth demand of me? Is there a command for me to obey? A sin to renounce? Is there an example for me to emulate or avoid?* Etc.

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THE BIBLE

The FULL version of this resource is now available online at our website under the *Messages* tab. In it you will find help through all four steps of good Bible Study Methods. I pray you find joy in your Bible.

FIRST TIMOTHY

5:17-6:2

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ENDURING LEADERSHIP

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Section 1—The Message of the Church—Chapter 1

Section 2—The Members of the Church—Chapters 2-3

Section 3—The Minister(s) of the Church—Chapter 4

Section 4—The Ministries of the Church—Chapters 5-6

5:17-18—These verses speak to the **compensation and care** of qualified leaders within the church. Elders who labor in *the word* and in *teaching* are to be considered worthy of double *honor* (linking this section back to **5:3** and ahead to **6:1**). See **Deuteronomy 25:4; 24:15** and **Leviticus 19:13** for OT references. The word *honor* includes respect as well as financial compensation, as we saw in the case of widows in **5:3-16**.

5:19-22—These verses speak to the **accusation and criticism** of qualified leaders within the church. Clear from the context is that church leadership will be accused and criticized because of their responsibility and role. Therefore, Paul encourages Timothy to handle this situation carefully. See also **Deuteronomy 17, 19** and **Matthew 18**.

5:20—This speaks right into the problem of the letter, false teaching, perhaps from elders themselves. If this is true, and can be verified by multiple witnesses, they are to be rebuked so others see the consequences of their pride, lust and heresy.

NOTE WELL: These are not men who are laboring to teach truth and accidentally make a mistake here and there. These are teachers who have been confronted about consistent error and continue to resist and rebel.

5:22—This is a welcomed and needed reminder for the church today. If Timothy were to jump to conclusions and rebuke elders based on hearsay, one malicious witness or assumptions, then he would be sinning and joining in the sin of these gossips and troublemakers. This command is a sister command to **5:19**. They must inform and complement each other.

5:24-25—Paul sums up this phase of his instruction with a universal principle about sin and its consequences. We do well to heed its warning.

6:1-2—This passage informs the social/industrial relationships of Paul's day. Both employers and employees are to labor to guard both the name of God and the doctrine of the church. How true is this in our world!

For more background and helps on First Timothy, go to our site faithbibleonline.org under the *Messages* tab for the **First Timothy Tool Kit**.

