

## APPLICATION

Each week of our study, application will focus on two things:  
**personal character transformation** and **bible study methods**.

Are you attracted to false teaching like those in Ephesus?

The kind of false teaching Paul describes seems to appeal to:

- ◇ Our pride and self-righteousness (asceticism)
- ◇ A retention of Moses and the Law (Jewish legalism)
- ◇ Our intellect, sense of wisdom (speculations, arguments, etc.)
- ◇ Our pocketbooks and worldly desires (materialism)

Are you a teacher of God's Word?

Do you work hard to remain teachable and open to correction,  
education and growth?

Are you stubborn, arrogant and/or un-teachable?

## HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE

Good Bible study is built on good **observation**, the first step in healthy study methods. Observation is the most foundational step in our study of God's Word but must not become mechanical. God's Word must always connect to our heart and mind in a personal and transforming way.

When you read the Bible, try to read:

- ◆ **Prayerfully**—praying **Psalm 119:18** each time you begin
- ◆ **Thoughtfully**—like you are reading it for the first time
- ◆ **Repeatedly**—the same text over and over, patiently
- ◆ **Imaginatively**—picturing the circumstances/feeling the emotion
- ◆ **Meditatively**—thinking hard about each word, phrase, sentence and paragraph, tracking argument, structure and form
- ◆ **Investigative-ly**—creating questions, analyzing, solving
- ◆ **Purposefully**—expecting to see more of God and learning more about yourself

# FIRST TIMOTHY

1:3-11

APRIL 3, 2011

**EASTER  
SERVICES  
April, 24  
8:00 / 9:30 / 11:00 AM**

# FIRST TIMOTHY 1:3-11

## FAMILY INOCULATION

## FOR FURTHER STUDY

Paul foregoes the normal section of thanksgiving in this letter and gets immediately to the point. Timothy has critical work to do in Ephesus.

To track the birth and growth of the Church in Ephesus, begin perhaps as early as **Acts 2**, when men from “Asia” heard Peter’s speech. Asia referred to the western coastal region of Asia Minor, where Ephesus was a leading city. From here the story picks up speed under Paul’s ministry in **Acts 18-20**. See also **1 Cor 15:32** and **1 Cor 16:8**; **2 Tim 1:18** and **4:12**.

**1:3**—Timothy’s charge is to stay put and command men not to, literally, *hetero*-teach—teach things that are different/opposing. The entire letter is concerned with two things: right thinking and right living. Speaking to the former, it is filled with references to teaching truth: **1:3**; **1:5**; **1:18**; **3:15**; **4:6**; **4:16**; **5:7**; **5:17**; **5:21**; **6:2**; **6:17**; **6:18**; **6:20**.

**1:4-7**—Going through the bible study step of **Observation**, what can you simply observe about these false teachers from the text?

**1:5**—This verse is critical to the section. It sharply breaks the flow of the paragraph to remind Timothy how the truth is different than the lie. *Our instruction*, Paul says, is about love. *Our instruction produces* love.

**1:8-11**—Since these false teachers desire to be “*teachers of the Law*” (**v.7**) Paul includes here the truth about the Law of Moses. “*But we know...*” both contrasts with **v.7** and affirms the common understanding of the Law within the Church. *The Law is good*.

The verb used in **v.9** is better translated “*intend*” or “*appoint*.” Thus, “realizing that the law is not *intended* for the righteous person...” For some help on Paul’s view of the law see **Galatians 3:19ff**.

Review the grand distillation of the Mosaic Law in the Ten Commandments (**Exodus 20:1ff**) and try to observe potential parallels in Paul’s descriptive list in **verses 9-10**.

“Those who *kill* their fathers or mothers” (NAS, NIV, NKJ) can also be translated/understood as “those who *strike* fathers or mother” (ESV).

**1:10b-11**—Paul ends this charge to Timothy by reminding him of what actually does change lives: the gospel.

For more background and helps on First Timothy, go to our site [faithbibleonline.org](http://faithbibleonline.org) under the *Messages* tab for the **First Timothy Tool Kit**. Open an easy PDF and you are on your way.

TOOL  
KIT

