

# WALKING WITH JESUS 'THE LEADERSHIP TRACK'

## 1 TIMOTHY 1

18 Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by recalling them you may fight the battle well, 19 holding on to faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and so have suffered shipwreck with regard to the faith. 20 Among them are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme.

**Leaders persevere in the faith**

## 1 TIMOTHY 2

1 I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 3 This is good, and pleases God our Savior, 4 who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. 7 And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.

**Leaders urge others to practice the faith with prayer**

**Leaders advance the truth of the Gospel of Jesus**

### THE BAD NEWS

All people by their sin have missed the perfect standard of God's holiness and thus are unable to forge a way back to God on their own and will miss eternal life without restoration to him. This is true even of the "super spiritual" people, like the apostle Paul who knew himself to be "the worst of sinners" (1 Timothy 1:15).

### THE GOOD NEWS

God gave his only Son, Jesus, to restore us to God, doing so by the shedding of his blood on the cross, taking God's wrath in our place. This "one mediator" can restore us to God.

### THE NECESSARY RESPONSE

God does want "all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth," but this requires a response of repentance in faith that the grace of God is enough by itself to save us (see 1 John 1:9 and Ephesians 2:8-9).

"Whether being forgiven is good news depends on what it leads to... Forgiveness of sins and justification are good news because they remove obstacles to the only lasting, all-satisfying source of joy: Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is not merely the means of our rescue from damnation; he is the goal of our salvation. If he is not satisfying to be with, there is no salvation." - John Piper

8 Therefore I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing. 9 I also want the women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, adorning themselves, not with elaborate hairstyles or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, 10 but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God.

11 A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. 12 I do not permit a woman to teach or to assume authority over a man; she must be quiet. 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner. 15 But women will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.

### 1 TIMOTHY 3

1 Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. 2 Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3 not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. 4 He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect. 5 (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) 6 He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. 7 He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

8 In the same way, deacons are to be worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. 9 They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. 10 They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons.

11 In the same way, the women are to be worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything.

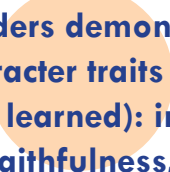
12 A deacon must be faithful to his wife and must manage his children and his household well. 13 Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus.

14 Although I hope to come to you soon, I am writing you these instructions so that, 15 if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth. 16 Beyond all question, the mystery from which true godliness springs is great:



### Leaders focus on holiness

**The tough question:** Was Paul's writing here inspired, culturally conditioned, inherently sexist, or of personal preference?



**Leaders demonstrate particular character traits (Spirit-given and learned): integrity, marital faithfulness, temperance, self-control, respectability, hospitality, ability to teach, gentleness, peacefulness, financial contentment, leader in the household, mature in the faith, good reputation among outsiders, sincerity, trustworthiness**

He appeared in the flesh,  
was vindicated by the Spirit,  
was seen by angels,  
was preached among the nations,  
was believed on in the world,  
was taken up in glory.

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“At the foundation, we should not desire the traits of a mature believer so that we will be selected as overseers, elders, or any sort of leader in our churches. Rather, in humility, we seek maturity in our faith because it honors God when we pursue the life that he has designated for us to live. Indeed, when we speak of “the end game” so that we might have a picture of what God’s work in and through us will look like as we progress in our growth in Him, we are not suggesting eldership. Rather, we are suggesting that you will grow into the characteristics that mark one who may be chosen as such a leader. Sadly, in many churches and fellowships, leaders are selected who do not display these marks, and better people are left in positions of subservience. Such an occurrence never bothers a truly humble person. Humble people know that their Father, “who sees what is done in secret,” will reward them (Matthew 6:2-4).” -from Links Players Bible study, “The End Game”