

# Timothy Learns to Serve God

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## **Scene Summary**

Timothy learns to serve God presents the story of how this young man learned the Scriptures at home then later learned to be a good helper to the Apostle Paul. Scenes include: Timothy learns about God from his mother and grandmother...he learns to help at home...he hears Paul preach at Lystra...later Paul asks Timothy to join him on a missionary journey...he learns from Paul...Paul trusts timothy to do special work for God...Paul writes to Timothy...Timothy helps in churches.

## **Scripture**

(Acts 16:1-3 NIV) He came to Derbe and then to Lystra, where a disciple named Timothy lived, whose mother was a Jewess and a believer, but whose father was a Greek. {2} The brothers at Lystra and Iconium spoke well of him. {3} Paul wanted to take him along on the journey, so he circumcised him because of the Jews who lived in that area, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.

1 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy, 1 Corinthians 16, and others.

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## **Players**

- **Narrator** – The play’s “catechist” or teacher should be a good reader with a clear voice.
- **Paul** – The lead character in this story.
- **Timothy** – The center character of the story.
- **Person 1, 2** – People from the church at Lystra.
- **Church Leader** – A pastor, or leader in the church.

## **Special Props**

- Normal items from the prop box such as cloaks, veils, robes and headdresses.



## ***Script – Timothy Learns To Serve God***

**Narrator:** Almost every day, mother Eunice read from the Bible scroll about Moses, Abraham or David. They often talked about God’s rules. Timothy tried very hard to remember them. [pause] Everyone helped at Timothy’s house. Grandmother Lois sewed new clothes for the family. Mother mixed the dough and patted it into small loaves of bread. Timothy gathered sticks for the fire under the oven so that the bread could bake. [pause] One day, a great teacher came to Timothy’s town.

**Paul:** [loudly] Everyone has disobeyed God’s rules. God has sent His Son Jesus, to show you His love. Be sorry for your wrong doings and ask Jesus to forgive you.

[Paul leaves the stage]

**Timothy:** [to himself] I have known many of God’s rules since I was a small boy. Paul is right, I’ve not always been able to obey them. [looking up in prayer] Jesus, please forgive me and help me to always do what is right.

**Timothy:** [to a person in town] Did you hear Paul preach when he was in our town?

**Person 1:** No, I was too busy to go and hear him.

**Timothy:** He told us that God loves us, even though we do wrong things. He said that God’s Son, Jesus, would forgive us, if we ask Him to.

[scene change to Paul coming back into town]

**Person 2:** [to Paul] Welcome back to our city Paul. Many people became Christians when you were here last.

**Paul:** [smiling] That is good news. I’m so glad.

**Person 2:** There is one young man, Timothy, who loves God very much. He tells many people about Jesus.

[scene change to Paul going to Timothy’s house]

**Paul:** [to Timothy] I have heard many good things about you Timothy. I know that you love God and try always to please Him. I need a helper. Would you like to go to other cities to tell people about God’s Son Jesus, our Savior?

**Timothy:** [excited] Oh yes! I would like to be your helper.

**Narrator:** The church leaders were glad when they heard the news. They gathered around Timothy and prayed for him.

**Church Leader:** [with hands on Timothy and others around] Oh God, make Timothy a good helper, kind and brave, true to you. Amen

**Narrator:** Sometimes Paul and Timothy traveled to far away cities. On the way, Paul would talk about God and the work God wanted them to do for Him. Timothy listened and asked questions. He wanted to learn how to be a good helper. [pause] In the cities, Timothy listened carefully as Paul preached.

**Timothy:** [to himself] I wonder when I will be ready to preach to the people?

**Paul:** [to Timothy] The Christians at Thessalonica are having troubles. I think that you can help them.

**Narrator:** Timothy was pleased that Paul trusted him to help the people.

[scene change to Timothy at the church at Thessalonica]

**Narrator:** [crowd around Timothy] He listened to their problems.

**Timothy:** God love you. He cares for you. He wants you to be kind, even to your enemies. He wants you to do what is right.

**Narrator:** Sometimes, when Paul was away, he wrote letters to Timothy.

[scene change to Paul, at a desk, writing]

**Paul:** [to himself] Dear Timothy. [talking slowly] Remember the things that I taught you. Be a good soldier for Jesus Christ. Don't be afraid to tell people about...

[in another place, Timothy picks up reading]

**Timothy:** [slowly reading a piece of paper] ...about God's Son Jesus. Be kind and helpful. Don't argue or listen to lies. Always do and say what is right. Read God's Word and think about it.

**Narrator:** When Timothy went to the city of Ephesus, he told the people about God. He tried to do and say what was right. The people listened to Timothy and they were glad that he could help them. Some men, who did not believe in God, wanted Paul to stop preaching. Because of this, Paul was put into prison.

**Paul:** Timothy, I need your help more now than ever.

**Timothy:** [kneels down in prayer] Heavenly Father, thank you for teaching me. Help me to do your work. Amen.

The End

### Supplemental Information

It is quite likely that as a boy Timothy learned to help in his home. All Jewish children were taught to work. Boys were taught trades by which they could support themselves, even when their families were wealthy.

When Paul chose Timothy to become a preacher-helper, Timothy learned how to do God's work. He learned how to help the Apostle Paul and how to do God's work when the Apostle sent him to cities alone.

Children in your class may be helpers, too. They can help arrange chairs, place pictures on the bulletin board, arrange displays of materials, distribute books, and help keep the classroom in order.

Plan ways for the children to help in the classroom. It might be easier to do things yourself, but give pupils opportunities to share responsibilities.

### ***Reflection questions***

- Why do you think Timothy wanted to remember God's rules?
- How did Timothy help at home?
- How do you help at home?
- Who was the great preacher that came to Timothy's town?
- What do you think Timothy prayed about?
- What do you think Timothy told his friends about God and Jesus?
- What can you tell your friends about God and Jesus?
- What did someone tell Paul about Timothy? [editor check this question]
- What did Paul ask Timothy to do?
- Why do you think Paul chose Timothy to help him?
- Paul and Timothy traveled to many cities. Sometimes they went by boat. What was one way that Timothy learned to be a helper to Paul?
- Paul sent Timothy to visit churches in other cities. How did Timothy help these Christians.
- What do you think Timothy talked to them about?
- Paul wrote many letters. Who do you think Paul was writing to?
- What did Paul write to Timothy?
- Do you think Timothy remembered to do the things that Paul wrote about?
- Why do you think that Timothy liked to do God's work?