

1 Timothy — Whiskey & Worship Study Guide

What Kind of Man Are You Becoming?

Paul wrote 1 Timothy to Timothy, a younger man leading the church in Ephesus. He was dealing with false teaching, leadership challenges, cultural pressure, money, relationships, and the temptation to lose focus. Sound familiar?

Paul's message is remarkably practical:

Know the truth. Lead yourself. Train for godliness. Treat people well. Fight for what matters.

1. Know What You Stand For — 1 Timothy 1

Key Verses: 1 Timothy 1:5, 12–16, 18–19

Focus:

Paul tells Timothy to guard the truth and “**fight the good fight.**” But he immediately connects truth with a transformed life. Paul himself is proof that God's grace can completely change a man.

Discussion:

- What are you allowing to shape your beliefs and convictions?
- Where do you need to stand firm rather than compromise?
- If you look back since you started your Christian journey, do you see a change in your life?

Takeaway:

A man needs convictions strong enough to stand on when life gets difficult.

2. Lead Yourself First — 1 Timothy 2–3

Key Verses: 1 Timothy 3:1–7

Focus:

When Paul describes godly leadership, he focuses heavily on **character**—self-control, faithfulness, humility, reputation, and the ability to manage one's own household.

Discussion:

- Would the people closest to you describe you as the same man everyone else sees?
- What area of your character needs the most attention right now?

Takeaway:

Your greatest leadership responsibility is becoming the man God wants you to be.

3. Train for Godliness — 1 Timothy 4

Key Verses: 1 Timothy 4:7–12

Focus:

Paul tells Timothy to “**train yourself for godliness.**” Spiritual maturity requires intentional effort. He also challenges Timothy to be an example in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity.

Discussion:

- Are you intentionally training spiritually, or simply hoping you'll grow?
- What is one spiritual discipline you need to take more seriously?

Takeaway: You don't accidentally become a godly man. You train for it.

4. Honor the People God Has Given You — 1 Timothy 5

Key Verses: 1 Timothy 5:1–2, 8

Focus:

Paul gives Timothy practical instructions about family, older and younger believers, widows, church leaders, and responsibility. Faith isn't just about what we believe—it's demonstrated in how we treat people.

Discussion:

- Who has God placed in your life that you are responsible to love, encourage, or care for?
- Are the people closest to you experiencing your faith through your actions?

Takeaway:

A godly man uses his strength to serve and build up others.

5. Fight the Right Fight — 1 Timothy 6

Key Verses: 1 Timothy 6:6–12, 17–19

Focus:

Paul warns about the pursuit of money and reminds Timothy that “**godliness with contentment is great gain.**” He tells him to flee what is destructive, pursue righteousness, and “**fight the good fight of the faith.**”

Discussion:

- What are you pursuing most aggressively right now?
- What do you need to **flee**, what do you need to **pursue**, and what is worth **fighting for**?

Takeaway:

Don't spend your life fighting battles that don't matter while neglecting the ones that do.

Paul's message to Timothy can be boiled down to five questions:

1. What do I believe?

Am I standing firmly on God's truth?

2. Who am I when nobody is watching?

Does my character match my faith?

3. Am I training?

Am I intentionally becoming more like Christ?

4. Who am I responsible for?

Am I using my strength to serve the people God has placed around me?

5. What am I fighting for?

Am I investing my life in things that will matter eternally?

Closing Thought

1 Timothy isn't ultimately about becoming a better church member.

It's about becoming a better man. A man who knows what he believes. A man who controls himself. A man who trains himself. A man who takes care of his people. A man who knows what is worth fighting for. Paul's challenge to Timothy—and to us—is simple: “**Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching.**” — 1 Timothy 4:16

Prayer Focus:

Ask God to make us men of truth, character, discipline, responsibility, courage, and faithfulness—and to help us become the kind of men others can trust and follow.