

RELEVANT • INSPIRED • PRACTICAL • LIFE CHANGING

WESLEY

ADULT STUDENT

.....
June–August 2026
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**WESLEY
BIBLE CURRICULUM**

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*Faith at Work in Christ's
Family: Paul's Letters
to Timothy and Titus*

Sons and Daughters of Faith

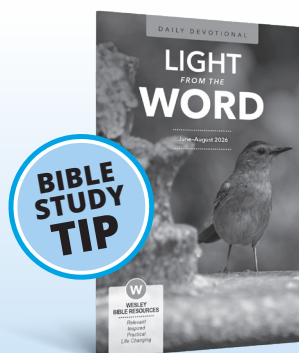
Timothy and Titus—Paul identified each as a true son in the faith (1 Tim. 1:2; see also 2 Tim. 2:2; Titus 1:4). To be certain, Paul was used by God to lead them to the new birth of salvation, so they were in a very practical sense his born-again children—his spiritual sons. But just as should be the case with biological parenthood, there was more to their relationship than just bringing them into new life. Paul was their mentor, guide, and friend.

As we study Paul's God-inspired direction and teaching to his spiritual sons, watch how God likewise inspired him to lead these leaders. His counsel, advice, and challenges are no less directed by God's Spirit to us modern Timothys and Tituses, though our circumstances are different. But more so, these truths likewise challenge us to pass along the same spiritual and practical theology to our own children of faith.

Whether our own sons and daughters are pastors or lay leaders, Paul's God-inspired truths communicate effectively to them today. How we model, teach, and apply those truths is as personal and relevant for us today as it was for Paul.

Let us in the weeks to come be trained, and furthermore used by God to train others, as daughters and sons of faith.

Wesleyan Publishing House Editorial Team



You will deepen your reflection on these lessons by reading *Light from the Word* each day throughout the week. This helpful daily devotional follows the theme of each week's lesson with a relevant, practical message aimed at sharpening your spiritual life. You'll be immersed in these Scriptures and related passages every day.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

*By reading for fifteen minutes each day, you can
read every chapter of the Bible in one year. Begin anytime!*

june

1. 2 Samuel 14–15
2. 2 Samuel 16–18
3. 2 Samuel 19–20
4. 2 Samuel 21–22
5. 2 Samuel 23–24
6. Galatians 1–3
7. Galatians 4–6
8. 1 Kings 1–2
9. 1 Kings 3–5
10. 1 Kings 6–7
11. 1 Kings 8–9
12. 1 Kings 10–12
13. 1 Kings 13–15
14. 1 Kings 16–18
15. 1 Kings 19–20
16. 1 Kings 21–22
17. Ephesians 1–3
18. Ephesians 4–6
19. 2 Kings 1–3
20. 2 Kings 4–5
21. 2 Kings 6–8
22. 2 Kings 9–11
23. 2 Kings 12–14
24. 2 Kings 15–17
25. 2 Kings 18–20
26. 2 Kings 21–23
27. 2 Kings 24–25
28. Philippians 1–4
29. 1 Chronicles 1–2
30. 1 Chronicles 3–5

july

1. 1 Chronicles 6–7
2. 1 Chronicles 8–10
3. 1 Chronicles 11–13
4. 1 Chronicles 14–16
5. 1 Chronicles 17–20
6. 1 Chronicles 21–23
7. 1 Chronicles 24–26
8. 1 Chronicles 27–29
9. Colossians 1–4
10. 2 Chronicles 1–4
11. 2 Chronicles 5–7
12. 2 Chronicles 8–11
13. 2 Chronicles 12–16
14. 2 Chronicles 17–19
15. 2 Chronicles 20–22
16. 2 Chronicles 23–25
17. 2 Chronicles 26–29
18. 2 Chronicles 30–32
19. 2 Chronicles 33–34
20. 2 Chronicles 35–36
21. 1 Thessalonians 1–5
22. Ezra 1–4
23. Ezra 5–7
24. Ezra 8–10
25. Nehemiah 1–4
26. Nehemiah 5–7
27. Nehemiah 8–10
28. Nehemiah 11–13
29. 2 Thessalonians 1–3
30. Esther 1–4
31. Esther 5–10

august

1. Job 1–4
2. Job 5–8
3. Job 9–12
4. Job 13–17
5. Job 18–21
6. Job 22–26
7. Job 27–30
8. Job 31–34
9. Job 35–38
10. Job 39–42
11. 1 Timothy 1–6
12. 2 Timothy 1–4
13. Psalms 1–7
14. Psalms 8–14
15. Psalms 15–18
16. Psalms 19–24
17. Psalms 25–30
18. Psalms 31–34
19. Psalms 35–37
20. Psalms 38–42
21. Psalms 43–48
22. Psalms 49–54
23. Psalms 55–60
24. Psalms 61–67
25. Psalms 68–71
26. Psalms 72–75
27. Psalms 76–78
28. Psalms 79–84
29. Psalms 85–89
30. Psalms 90–95
31. Psalms 96–102

KEY VERSE

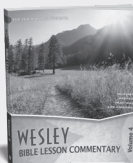
I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience.
—1 Timothy 1:16

SCRIPTURE

- 1 Timothy 1:1–17

LESSON FOCUS

God's grace is the basis for our relationship with him.



CHECK IT OUT

Wesley Bible Lesson Commentary
Volume 4 • Unit 4 • Lesson 1
Activity: Life Graph

SESSION OVERVIEW

engage

God is a holy God and has given his holy law to humankind in order to establish a relationship with us. While that law has been effective in identifying sin in the ungodly, it has never been adequate to produce inward holiness in his people. And yet we have a tendency to misuse it as a kind of “club” to keep one another in line. But God is also loving, and his relationship with us in the new covenant is built on grace. Even the worst of sinners can be made right with God not by adherence to the law, but by faith in God’s provision of grace through Christ Jesus.

INTRODUCTION

examine

Try to imagine a world without any laws. What would life be like? If everyone did what was right in their own eyes, our world would be in serious trouble. Laws keep people in line and create order, structure, and security.

Now try to imagine a world without any grace. Without grace, the world would be harsh, oppressive, rigid, and unforgiving. Unfortunately, it sounds all too familiar, as grace is a rare commodity today, even within the church.

JUNE 7 | 1

GOD’S ABUNDANT PROVISION OF GRACE

God is not at fault. He established his law with the world through Moses, but he demonstrated his grace to the world through Jesus. And his grace is still available to all who will call upon him in faith.

1 What are the Pastoral Epistles (1 Tim. 1:1–2)?

KJV

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope;

2 Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

NIV

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

2 To Timothy my true son in the faith: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Among Paul's many letters written to various churches throughout the Mediterranean, several were written to individuals. Three of these letters—two to Timothy and one to Titus—have come to be known as the Pastoral Epistles, due in part to the guidance Paul offered them as pastors as well as the concern he expressed toward the churches they oversaw. The timing of these letters, however, does not coincide with any of the events of the book of Acts that record Paul's ministry. Nevertheless, it is generally conceded that Paul was eventually released from his first Roman imprisonment and that he carried on additional apostolic ministry until his martyrdom under Nero (around AD 67). In 2 Timothy, Paul anticipated that event to be imminent.

Paul considered himself to be **an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God** (1 Tim. 1:1). From the moment of his conversion on the road to Damascus, he knew God had placed an unmistakable call upon his life to take the gospel of Christ to the gentiles. That calling was ultimately recognized and confirmed by the other apostles in Jerusalem. But Paul did not need their confirmation. He already had God's.

On his first missionary journey, Paul traveled through Lystra, where Timothy was just a young man at the time. Both Timothy's mother and grandmother became strong believers. By the time of Paul's second journey through Lystra in Acts 16, he had recruited the young Timothy

to join him in ministry. Paul became a mentor to Timothy, but even more than that, Paul regarded him as a **true son in the faith** (v. 2). As time wore on, Paul even entrusted Timothy with subsidiary missions (Acts 19:22). Paul's affection for Timothy was evident in the fact that Paul included him in the salutation of his letters to five different churches.

ONE

explore

1. Tell about an apostle figure in your life who mentored you in your Christian development.
2. Whom are you mentoring in both faith and ministry?

2 Beware of false teachers of the law (1 Tim. 1:3–11).

KJV

3 As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine,

4 Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do.

5 Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:

6 From which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling;

7 Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm.

8 But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully;

NIV

3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain people not to teach false doctrines any longer

4 or to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. Such things promote controversial speculations rather than advancing God's work—which is by faith.

5 The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

6 Some have departed from these and have turned to meaningless talk.

7 They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.

8 We know that the law is good if one uses it properly.

continued

KJV *continued*

9 Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,

10 For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for men stealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine;

11 According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.

NIV *continued*

9 We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for law-breakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers,

10 for the sexually immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine

11 that conforms to the gospel concerning the glory of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.

The church in Ephesus had a problem. Certain people within the church were leading people astray by their teaching. The various descriptions Paul used of their teaching include **false doctrines, myths, endless genealogies, controversial speculations, and meaningless talk** (vv. 3–4, 6). Isn't it interesting how easily people can be led astray by a zealous and passionate teacher, no matter how bizarre their teaching might be? We may remember from American history the horrible consequences of Jonestown, Guyana, (1978) and Waco, Texas (1993). In addition, a host of less notorious examples may come to mind of good Christian people buying into the outlandish claims of a false teacher. In Paul's second letter to Timothy, Paul warned him that "the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths" (2 Tim. 4:3–4).

Paul instructed Timothy to remain in Ephesus, where he could command those people to refrain from their activities. Although Timothy was not an apostle, he was respected because of his association with Paul. And apparently he was successful in his efforts, for the Lord's commendation to this church in Revelation 2:1–7 includes the fact that they had been faithful in rejecting the claims of false teachers.

Among other things, these false teachers attempted to convince the people that they were **teachers of the law** (1 Tim. 1:7). Apparently they were knowledgeable about certain aspects of the Mosaic law and attempted to convince people that these were crucial to their salvation. Even today it is common to find people who impose legalistic standards on others as a badge of their Christian faith. But by doing so, they often spend endless energy chasing after things that are truly nonessential.

Paul indicated that **the law is good if one uses it properly** (v. 8). The law may remind the ungodly of their sin and provide a framework for punishment of wrongdoers. If every person was free to do what was right in their own eyes, society would eventually crumble. The law is also, as Paul told the Galatians, a schoolmaster that is able to lead us to Christ (Gal. 3:24 KJV). But the law can be abused. Unfortunately, it is sometimes used as a club. But the goal of a command should be **love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith** (1 Tim. 1:5).

TWO

explore

1. What were certain people in Ephesus attempting to teach the believers?
2. How can Christians guard themselves from being led astray by false teaching?
3. In what ways can the law be abused?

3 Praise the Lord for his abundant grace (1 Tim. 1:12–17).

KJV

12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;

13 Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.

14 And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

NIV

12 I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service.

13 Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief.

14 The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

continued

KJV *continued*

15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

17 Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

NIV *continued*

15 Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.

16 But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life.

17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Paul was always keenly aware that he was a product of the Lord's grace. If the law had been able to save someone, it undoubtedly would have been him. As Paul once told the Philippians, he was "circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless" (Phil. 3:5–6). But in his early life, the law was a club he used to try to beat the followers of Christ into submission. His misuse of it caused him to be a **blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man** (1 Tim. 1:13). And when the Lord met him on his way to Damascus, he became aware that he was not a righteous man at all, but a sinner—in fact, **the worst of sinners** (v. 16). And no matter how hard we might try to obey the law of God, all of us have sinned and fallen short of God's glory (Rom. 3:23).

Fortunately, Paul discovered the remarkable truth that **Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners** (1 Tim. 1:15). God is rich in mercy, not wanting to hold humanity's sins against us. As sinners we don't deserve mercy—"the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). That's what makes grace so amazing. And God is willing to pour it out on us **abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus** (1 Tim. 1:14). For that reason, he alone can receive the honor and the glory for our salvation.

Paul told Timothy that God displayed his mercy toward Paul so **Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for**

those who would believe in him and receive eternal life (v. 16). If God could have mercy on Paul, God could forgive anybody! Paul's life was a testimony of God's love to everyone he met. Grace does that. It takes us from where we were and patiently lifts us to where God designed us to be from the very beginning. It motivates us to live our lives completely for the One who died to give us eternal life. It energizes our soul to worship him with our whole being.

THREE

explore

1. What was your life like before you experienced the grace of God?
2. What difference has God's grace made in your life?

When we truly grasp the depth of God's grace toward us, we, like Paul, will sing a wonderful doxology of praise unto him: **Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen (v. 17).**

LIFE APPLICATION

exercise

God's grace is a free gift, without any strings. But like any gift, it must be received. John wrote in his gospel, "Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:12). You can experience God's grace in your life by doing the following:

- Repent and confess your sins to God.
- Believe Christ died to save you.
- Receive God's gift by faith.

Once you take that step of faith, then you, like Paul, will become an example of God's grace to others. In the same way you have received mercy from your heavenly Father, you can in turn pass it along to others. In that way, your life will be a testimony of grace.

- Whom do you need to forgive?
- What hurts, grudges, or resentments do you need to let go of?
- To whom does God want you to extend his grace?

WESLEY

BIBLE CURRICULUM

***** (ADULT) *****

Scope and Sequence with coordinating Wesley Bible Lesson Commentary

	UNIT 1: Fall	UNIT 2: Winter	UNIT 3: Spring	UNIT 4: Summer
Volume 1 2029-2030	Revelation	Minor Prophets	1-2 Peter Jude	Life Issues Holiness Evangelism
Volume 2 2030-2031	Jeremiah Lamentations Ezekiel Daniel	Matthew	James	1-2 Samuel 1-2 Kings 1-2 Chronicles
Volume 3 2024-2025	Romans	Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians Philemon	Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy	Call to Holiness: Dynamic Life from Spiritual Disciplines
Volume 4 2025-2026	John	Ezra Nehemiah Esther	1-2 Thessalonians	1-2 Timothy Titus
Volume 5 2026-2027	Hebrews	Exodus	Joshua Judges Ruth	Spiritual Heritage Stewardship Social Issues
Volume 6 2027-2028	Mark	Isaiah	1-3 John	Job Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Songs
Volume 7 2028-2029	Genesis	Luke	Acts	1-2 Corinthians

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