

The Making of a Godly Man

Lessons from the Life of Timothy | 2 Timothy 1:1-7

Four Influences God Uses in Our Faith Formation:

1. Our Upbringing (family and faith environments, v.5)

- Lois and Eunice
- an unbelieving father (Acts 16:1)
- exposure to the Scriptures (2 Timothy 3:14-17)

1. How did your family upbringing (good or bad) influence your decision to (one day) follow Christ?
2. How did your church family/environment (at any age) play a part in your faith formation?

2. Our Spiritual Friends and Mentors (people who care, pray and challenge, vv.2-4)

- Paul's "true son in the faith" (1 Timothy 1:2)
- Paul set an example to follow (2 Timothy 3:10-11)
- Paul delegated responsibilities to Timothy (e.g., Acts 16:3; 1 Timothy 1:3; 2 Timothy 4:1-2)

3. Name one or two significant influencers (friends or mentors) along your spiritual journey.
4. Share your experience regarding one man in whom you are making regular spiritual investments.

3. Our Divine Calling and Enablement (God saves, enables and enlists, v.6;9)

- God "calls" us to be a believer in Christ; Timothy's conversion (Acts 14:6-7)
- God "calls" and enables us to be a minister of the gospel of Christ (Acts 16:2; 1 Timothy 4:14)
- salvation is the "gift of God", "not because of anything we have done" (v.9)
- God gave us His Spirit, and with Him "power, love and self-discipline" (vv.7;14)

5. When did you hear and obey God's call to follow Jesus?
6. What spiritual gift has God given you; and in what area of ministry do you exercise it?

4. Our Personal Discipline (we must determine to fulfill our God-given privileges, v.7)

- self-discipline = wholehearted diligence (1 Timothy 4:15)
- "fan into flame" (v.6)

7. In what areas are you pretty self-disciplined, and in what areas do you struggle with it?
8. What one immediate step could you take to "fan into flame" your calling and gift?

Summary and Application

- Intentionally find practical ways to thank parents, friends and leaders for their spiritual influence.
- Be disciplined in fanning into flame your God-given gifts and opportunities.