LESSONS THIS QUARTER
1) 02 June 2019............1Timothy 1.....................Trusting God’s Grace
2) 09 June...................1Timothy 2..................Mission
3) 16 June....................1Timothy 3..................Setting an Example
4) 23 June....................1Timothy 4..................Staying the Course
5) 30 June....................1Timothy 5..................Being Responsible
6) 07 July.....................1Timothy 6..................Lasting Investments
7) 14 July.....................2Timothy 1..................Confidence
8) 21 July.....................2Timothy 2..................Focused
9) 28 July.....................2Timothy 3..................Diligent
10) 04 August...............2Timothy 4..................Enduring
11) 11 August...............2Timothy 5..................Loving with Opposition
12) 18 August...............Titus 2......................Living with Integrity
13) 25 August...............Titus 3......................Living to Do

INTRODUCTION
- Paul stresses the need to “pay close attention” to sound doctrine so people can be saved, both from Hell and from deception
- Paul also STRONGLY stressed the following to Timothy, and to us:
  - v6. Point out to everyone the truth we should adhere to and the fallacies some are falling for
  - v7. Stay spiritually fit (discipline yourself to godliness)
  - v10. Again, labor & strive to stay spiritually fit
  - v11. Command & Teach these things
  - v12. Be an example of these things
  - v13. Focus on Bible reading, exhortation, & teaching
  - v14. Be diligent about all this, and let others see your growth
  - v15. Pay close attention to yourself and to your doctrine
- Out of 16 vvs, 8 vvs stress the importance of knowing and teaching sound doctrine & hammering it while being spiritually fit to do so.
- If this is so important to Paul, what are we doing about it?

Passage | Comments
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4:1 | Identifying False Teachings
- v1. Why is it easy to leave the TRUTH and chase after the LIES of “deceitful spirits & doctrines of demons”?
- Is the "flash & bang" of false teachings exciting?
- Are we prone to have our flesh & ears "tingle"
- Is the desire to follow legalistic rules more enticing?
- Do we prefer immediate gratification?
- ...and who has got the right truth? Every denomination believes they have hold on The Truth

4:14-16 | Public Reading of Scripture within the early Church
- v14. “Neglect not the spiritual gift within you, through prophecy and with the laying on of hands by the elders”
- Does this happen today? Should it?
- CAUTION. We are not told what Timothy’s gift was; we can only speculate it had to do with evangelizing or administering as an Elder.
- v15. “Practice these things, be absorbed in them, so your progress will be evident to all” – Faithful, growing leaders breed faithful, growing churches
- Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify God.
- v16. Sound doctrine and persistent teaching saves. This needs to be a priority in all churches

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS
- Notice that Paul’s emphasis was on TEACHING believers, not preaching at them. Teaching involves 2-way dialogue, not a one-way monologue. This is why Sunday School is so vital to church growth.
- How seriously do we “labor & strive” to know & teach doctrine?
- How many hours do we spend a week in God’s word?
- How many times have you read the Bible since getting saved?
- A rule of thumb is to read through the Bible at least once a year

NEXT WEEK: 1Timothy 5. Paul addresses how to handle difficult people and situations for God’s glory and the benefit of the church