

1 Timothy 1:12-20 (New International Readers Version)

¹²I am thankful to Christ Jesus our Lord. He has given me strength. I thank him that he considered me faithful. And I thank him for appointing me to serve him.

¹³I used to speak evil things against Jesus. I tried to hurt his followers. I really pushed them around. But God showed me mercy anyway. I did those things without knowing any better. I wasn't a believer.

¹⁴Our Lord poured out more and more of his grace on me. Along with it came faith and love from Christ Jesus.

¹⁵Here is a saying that you can trust. It should be accepted completely. Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

And I am the worst sinner of all. ¹⁶But for that very reason, God showed me mercy. And I am the worst of sinners. He showed me mercy so that Christ Jesus could show that he is very patient. I was an example for those who would come to believe in him. Then they would receive eternal life.

¹⁷The eternal King will never die. He can't be seen. He is the only God. Give him honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

¹⁸My son Timothy, I give you these teachings. They are in keeping with the prophecies that were once made about you. By following them, you can fight the good fight. ¹⁹Then you will hold on to faith. You will hold on to a good sense of what is right and wrong.

Some have not accepted these teachings. By doing that, they have destroyed their faith. They are like a ship that has sunk.

²⁰Hymenaeus and Alexander are among them. I have handed them over to Satan. That will teach them not to speak evil things against God.

Studies in First Timothy

Stewards of God's Mercy

1st Timothy 1:12-17

May 22, 2011

LIFE ON LIFE



Questions for Small Groups, Families, and Friends

We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

Discussion Question:

What are some common opinions about what God is like?

Study Questions:

Read Isaiah 40:9-31.

What is the message of good news about God (40:9-11)?

What one answer satisfies all five questions (40:12-14)?

How does this answer help you trust God more?

How does God compare to the nations and their idols (40:15-24)?

What are the false gods in our culture to which people devote themselves? What kind of idols (substitutes for God) do we worship or serve?

Why is worshiping idols preferable for some people to knowing the living God?

How much greater than the greatest ruler on earth is our God in heaven (40:21-26)?

How do God's people complain about God? How do they think He is failing them (Isaiah 40:27)?

Have you thought that God was unconcerned about your struggles? What hope does God's Word offer us at such times (40:28-31)?

Application Questions:

What is one truth taught in this lesson that you need to believe?

What is one command God would have you obey?

What one promise in these readings would you claim?