



Our Church, A Family (Part 6) Sunday May 01, 2005

Today: Last message in this series

Section 8 : Lessons from the Paul-Timothy relationship

2 Timothy 1:2

To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

1. The divine connection

Act 16:1-3

1 Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek:

2 Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium.

3 Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.

Be sensitive to the "divine connections" God sets up in your life. God may send "Timothys" into your life or send you as a "Paul" into other peoples lives.

2. A special bond

1 Timothy 1:2 Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

2 Timothy 1:2 To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Timothy 2:1 Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 4:17 For this cause have I sent unto you Timotheus, who is my beloved son, and faithful in the Lord, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways which be in Christ, as I teach every where in every church.

There was a special bond – a special relationship between Paul and Timothy. Paul considered Timothy as his spiritual son and Timothy looked up to Paul as his spiritual father.

3. A special closeness and transparency

2 Timothy 3:10,11

10 But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience,

11 Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.



There was a closeness and transparency on the part of the apostle Paul which allowed Timothy to see and know Paul for who he really was. Timothy responded by following or patterning himself after what he saw in Paul.

4. Communication of specific instructions

1 Timothy 1:18 This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare;

1 Timothy 6:20 O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:

Paul instructed Timothy, teaching him what to do, what not to do, what pitfalls to avoid, etc. (see 1 & 2 Timothy)

5. Communication of encouragement, exhortation and correction

Paul gave Timothy positive encouragement.

1 Timothy 6:12

One of the toughest things in ministry is to administer correction. But you have to learn to do it in a loving, positive, uplifting way. If you don't correct your "Timothy", then the very thing that you allow, will become a "cancer" that will eat into their life and destroy them. Correction is life doing "spiritual surgery" – it hurts, but it has a positive result.

6. Communication of genuine costs

There was communication of genuine costs, the price that must be paid to serve God. Paul didn't "smooth talk" Timothy. He laid things out as they were. He invited Timothy to share in his sufferings. 2 Timothy 1:8 2 Timothy 2:3-5

7. Communication with regard

1 Timothy 6:11 But thou, O man of God,...

2 Corinthians 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, unto the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints which are in all Achaia:

Philemon 1:1 Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy our brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer,

Paul communicated with a high sense of regard for Timothy. He called Timothy "a man of God" (1 Timothy 6:11). He recognized Timothy's true worth, his calling, giftings and anointing.



8. Delegation and deputization

There was the element of deputization or delegation of authority and responsibility. Paul left Timothy to take care of the church at Ephesus (1 Timothy 1:3). Through practical training, Timothy was groomed into a man of God. Paul had enough trust and confidence in Timothy to give him specific responsibilities (1 Corinthians 4:17)

9. Positive recommendation

1 Corinthians 16:10 Now if Timotheus come, see that he may be with you without fear: for he worketh the work of the Lord, as I also do.

Philippians 2:19-23

19 But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timotheus shortly unto you, that I also may be of good comfort, when I know your state.

20 For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state.

21 For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's.

22 But ye know the proof of him, that, as a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel.

23 Him therefore I hope to send presently, so soon as I shall see how it will go with me.

After having proved Timothy, Paul recommended him enthusiastically and positively.

10. Becomes a co-worker

Romans 16:21 Timotheus my workfellow,...

1 Thessalonians 3:1,2

1 Wherefore when we could no longer forbear, we thought it good to be left at Athens alone;

2 And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:

After traveling and ministering together (Acts 17:14,15 18:5 20:1-4 Philippians 2:22) Timothy eventually becomes a "co-worker", a co-equal in the ministry.

Problems arise when the son fails to grow up or when the father desires the son to always remain a son, instead of becoming a joint-heir.

Our desire is to see everyone mature into a place where each one can become a spiritual father/mother to others who are born or brought into the house.

Concluding Remarks:

There is work in the House of the Lord

Mark 13:33-37

33 Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.



34 For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.

35 Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning:

36 Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.

37 And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

Every one has been assigned work to do in the Master's House. You have a work to do in the House of the Lord!



USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

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