

## “Laying the Foundation”

### 1 Timothy 1:1-2

(10-17-20)

#### WELCOME:

(1 minute)

#### INTRO:

(5 minutes)

- **Illustration:** Cultures Explained
  - **Q:** Have you ever experienced a different culture?
    - Punctuality vs. Relaxed
    - Hot vs. Cold
    - Customs & delicacies
    - Clothing & dress
  - Caught & taught
    - Born into or Foreigner
    - Contrast & differences felt
  - **A:** Difficult to change cultures once adopted
- **Transition:** Culture matters!
  - From the Lord’s direction, Paul wrote to Timothy and gave instruction for how to lead the Church of Ephesus and grow a culture rooted in Christ

#### CONTEXT:

(15 minutes)

- **Where we are going:** Book Overview
  - Defining godly leadership
  - Leadership Qualifications
  - False Teachers/Teaching

- Ministry Roles & functions
- Call of/on the Church (every Christian)
- Purpose for existence & proclamation
- **Where we started:** Paul, Timothy, Church of Ephesus
  - Who Paul was → (Acts 9)
  - Who Paul became → (Damascus Road)
  - Why/How an Apostle
  - Paul started Church of Ephesus in AD 54
    - Served 3-years there
  - Left for Corinth in AD 57
    - Issues arising that must be dealt with
  - Acts 20:28-31 → Before Leaving, Paul warns of “False teachers and wolves” who will rise up and look to devour the church

**READ:** <sup>28</sup> Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as overseers, to shepherd the church of God,<sup>[h]</sup> which he purchased with his own blood. <sup>29</sup> I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. <sup>30</sup> Men will rise up even from your own number and distort the truth to lure the disciples into following them. <sup>31</sup> Therefore be on the alert, remembering that night and day for three years I never stopped warning each one of you with tears.

- False teachers do come & cause division
- Disunity in the church occurs
- Ephesians sway theologically & adopt ungodly culture
  - Money & wealth
  - Life circumstances

- Myths & beliefs
    - Convictions & genealogies
  - **\*\*BECAUSE → They take their focus off Jesus**
- **Where we are now: Current Situation**
  - 5-years later Paul sends Timothy as an “apostolic delegate” to...
    - Point all toward Jesus
    - Eradicate bad leadership
    - Raise up healthy leadership
    - Respect Jesus’ authority
    - Follow Jesus’ directives
    - Change culture of entire church
- **(REITERATE) Where we are going: Book Overview**
  - Defining godly leadership
  - Leadership Qualifications
  - Dealing with False Teachers/Teaching
  - Ministry Roles & functions
  - Call of/on the Church (& every Christian)
  - Purpose for existence, proclamation,
- **Purpose: “Laying the foundation” (*hence title*)**
- **Transition: Christ calls us to a Godly culture**

**BIG IDEA:**

(1 minute)

- **Big Idea: Hope, Purpose, and Power through Jesus**

- Through the work of Jesus' life, death and resurrection, Christians and His church have been given the hope, purpose, & power needed to set a new culture and be His ambassadors to the world!

### PRAY:

(1 minute)

### READ:

(1 minute)

- Text: 1 Timothy 1:1-2

**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<sup>[a]</sup> Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

### PREVIEW:

(1 minute)

- **3 Main Points:**
  - 1 - Jesus Holds All Authority
  - 2 - Jesus Calls Christians to Mission
  - 3 - Jesus Equips the Called

### PILLAR 1:

(8 minutes)

- Jesus Holds All Authority
  - Paul introduces himself as an "Apostle of Christ Jesus" (v.1)
    - He was well known by Timothy and Ephesians
      - 10-years spent w/ Timothy
      - 3-years spent w/ Ephesians
  - An Apostle because...

- Called directly by Jesus to ministry (**Acts 9**)
      - Jesus spoke directly to Paul
      - Called Paul to faithfully obey Him (Jesus)
      - (**Acts 9:15**) Jesus affirmed Paul's role to Ananias → "For this man, Paul, is my chosen instrument to take my name to the Gentiles, kings, and Israelites"
  - Paul wants Ephesians to know He speaks on behalf of God
    - Gives credence to Paul's directions & letter
    - Contrasts Paul to False Teachers in Ephesus
      - Paul does NOT speculate
      - Paul DOES proclaim
        - (B/C) Appointed by God
        - (B/C) Hears from God
- **Illustration:** Sport Teams
  - Player – Coach relationship
    - Players know their coach
    - Players listen to their coach
    - Players know their coach's playbook
    - Players do what the coach says/calls
- **Application:**
  - To be a Christian is to acknowledge Jesus as our authority (coach) and follow Him
  - When Jesus leads us, we must be obedient and follow

## PILLAR 2:

(8 minutes)

- Jesus Calls Christians to Mission
  - Paul (an Apostle) was “commanded” by Jesus to (v.1)...
  - PROCLAIM:
    - Preached, taught, shared
    - Apostle = “sent one”
  - LEAD:
    - Spent 3-years living in Ephesus
    - Nearly 30-years in ministry (TOTAL)
    - Invested blood, sweat, & tears
  - DISCIPLE:
    - Always invested in other men
    - Intentionally brought others with Him into ministry (Silas, Tim., Titus, etc.)
  - SUFFER:
    - Several missionary journeys
    - Beaten & imprisoned for witnessing
    - Executed for faith
    - Acts 9:16 → Jesus says, “I will show Paul how much he must suffer for my name.”
  - APPOINT:
    - Placed \*qualified\* men in ministry positions (Tim., Titus, etc.)

- In Ephesus specifically...
  - Appoints, instructs, & exhorts Timothy on mission
    - Lead church @ Ephesus
    - Set a godly example
    - Reproduce leadership
    - WHY → B/c Christ called you
- **Illustration:** Military Orders
  - President giving orders to a General
  - Orders apply not just to General, but all soldiers under him
  - Not a suggestion → Must be obeyed and followed
- **Application:**
  - Does your life have a track-record of faithfulness to the Lord?
  - Is the mission field you know your called to seem too difficult/uncomfortable?

### **PILLAR 3:**

(8 minutes)

- Jesus Equips the Called
  - (v.1) → Paul notes our “hope” is Jesus
    - *Present AND Future* Hope
    - Hope impacts our **HEART, HEAD & ACTIONS**
  - (v.2) → Paul calls Timothy “my true son in the faith”
    - Word & phrase reserved for blood family
    - Sign of God’s faithfulness & Timothy’s obedience
    - Timothy had a track record of living on mission...

- (Acts 16) → Good reputation
  - Discipled by Paul for 10-years
  - Obedient to God's calling/command
  - Disciple Maker
- (v.2) → Paul specifically outlines **GRACE, MERCY, & PEACE**
  - **Grace & Peace** = Typical Pauline greeting
  - **Mercy** = Only included to Timothy
  - Reminds Timothy...
    - Where his strength comes from
    - How to **LIVE & LEAD** like Christ
- GRACE, MERCY, & PEACE Defined...
  - **GRACE**: Receive what you do NOT deserve
  - **MERCY**: Not receive what you DO deserve
  - **PEACE**: Only obtainable from & thru Jesus
- Timothy equipped with G/M/P because...
  - Christ called him & is faithful to provide
  - Timothy was obedient and followed
- All change stems from Jesus
  - Jesus is essential for heart change
  - Heart change is essential for culture change
- Timothy's witness of G/M/P sets precedence in Ephesus
  - Stark contrast to wolves & false teachers
- **Illustration:** Counterfeit Money
  - Real & Counterfeit money look alike
  - BUT → Real & counterfeit have different foundations



- When tested...
  - Real money shows signs of its authenticity
  - Counterfeit money does not appear authentic
- Looks are deceiving → foundation dictates value/ability
- **Application:**
  - Luke 6:45 states actions/responses are an overflow of the heart
    - What do your actions say about your heart and God's mission?
    - Does your life exhibit God's G/M/P?

## RECAP:

(1 minute)

- **3 Main Points:**
  - 1 - Jesus Holds All Authority
  - 2 - Jesus Calls Christians to Mission
  - 3 - Jesus Equips the Called

## CLOSE:

(2 minutes)

- You can-**NOT** expect God's Grace, Mercy, & Peace if you do **NOT** acknowledge His authority and lordship in your life.
- The Christian culture and call is to...
  - Love God
  - Love People
  - Make Disciples
- Therefore...
  - Surrender to Jesus
  - Acknowledge His authority

○ And rest in knowing:

- He is our HOPE
- He provides our PURPOSE
- He gives us POWER (to fulfill the G.C.)

**PRAY:**

(1 minute)