

1 Timothy 5

1. What does the word “deacon” mean?

-It means “servant.”

2. What is the difference between elders and deacons?

-The only difference is their work.

-Elders mostly teach, and even though deacons can teach, it is not their primary work.

3. Are elders more important than deacons?

-No.

-Both elders and deacons are equally important.

4. Why does the Word of God not teach us what the work of a deacon must be?

-Because every church is different.

-Because the needs of every church are different.

5. What should be the work of a deacon?

-The work of a deacon should be the work that the elders decide for them to do to meet the needs of the church.

6. What would happen if a deacon or any Christian would not be sincere, but would “talk with two tongues”?

-He would cause division in the church.

7. What happens when deacons and all Christians study the truths of God?

-We learn to love God and His truths more and more which protects our conscience and our lives.

8. Why is it important for a deacon to manage his family?

-If he cannot manage his family, he will not be able to help manage the church.

9. How is it possible for a deacon and all Christians to live according to the Word of God?

-By allowing the Holy Spirit to control our thoughts, our words, and our actions.

10. Why is the church the foundation of the truth?

-Because the church holds and teaches the Word of God.

11. To whom does the church belong?

-To the Lord Jesus Christ alone.

12. Does the church belong to people?

-No.

13. Since the church belongs to God, what should elders and deacons do?

-They should ask God what He wants to do with His church.

-1 Timothy 4 begins with a warning:

Let's read 1 Timothy 4:1

1-The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

-When are the later times?

-Now.

-What does the Holy Spirit say will happen now in these later times?

-Some will abandon the faith and follow the teaching of demons.

-Are God and Paul talking about Christians?

-No.

-A Christian who is saved by the blood of Christ cannot be taken away by Satan and his demons.

-As Jesus said in John 10:29:

-“My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand.”

-Who are they who will abandon the faith and follow the teaching of demons?

-Those who come to church and pretend that they are Christians.

-These people are like Judas Iscariot who followed Jesus for three years, yet never believed in Him.

-The apostle John also talks about people who come to church and pretend that they are Christians:

-“They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us” (1 Jn 2:19).

-How do we know that there were false teachers in the church in Ephesus?

-Because Paul said this to Timothy:

-“Stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain people not to teach false doctrines any longer” (1 Timothy 1:3).

-While Jesus was still on earth, He warned us about false teachers or false Christs who would deceive many (Mt 24:4-5).

-As we learned in a previous lesson, Paul also warned the Ephesians elders about false teachers (Ac 20:29-30).

-According to 1 Timothy 4:1, what are these false teachers following?

-The teaching of demons.

Let’s read 1 Timothy 4:2

2-Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.

-Some people think that false teachers are only teaching that which they or others have learned on their own.

-The Word of God, however, teaches us that false teachers are teaching that which demons have taught them.

-Just as God uses His servants to teach the truth, Satan and his demons use false teachers to teach lies.

-That which is not the truth from God is a lie from Satan and his demons.

-Why do false teachers have no problem to teach lies?

-Because their consciences have been burned as with a hot iron.

-These false teachers do not know the difference between truth and lies.

-Why do false teachers not know the difference between truth and lies?

-Because their consciences have been burned as with a hot iron.

-Here is an illustration:

-When a man marks his cows with a hot iron, the skin that has been burned becomes hard.

-In the same way, the consciences of false teachers have been burned and are hard.

-These false teachers do not teach the truths of God, but rather the lies of Satan and his demons.

-Will these false teachers say that they are teaching the lies of Satan?

-No.

-Will these false teachers say that they are rejecting the Word of God?

-No.

-They say that they are Christians and they say that they are teaching the Word of God.

-The Word of God teaches us that some false teachers will come from the outside, but other false teachers will already be on the inside.

-Why is putting false teachers among Christians one of Satan's best works?

-Because Christians may think that they are hearing the Word of God when instead they are being led away from the truths of God.

-Here is an illustration:

-Would you be watching if there were enemies who were

surrounding your house?

-Yes.

-Would you want to do something if there were enemies who wanted to break into your house?

-Yes.

-As Christians, we must always be watching against false teachers and false teachings.

Let's read 1 Timothy 4:3

3-[False teachers] forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth.

-What are some of the lies that false teachers teach?

-They teach that it is a sin to marry.

-They also teach that we cannot eat some foods.

-Here are some more lies that false teachers teach:

-Jesus is not God.

-Jesus did not do miracles.

-Jesus did not pay for our sins.

-Jesus did not rise from the dead.

-Here are some more lies that false teachers teach:

-The Holy Spirit is not God.

-The Holy Spirit does not live in all Christians.

-Here are some more lies that false teachers teach:

-The penalty of sin is not death.

-We must only do good works to be saved.

-There are many lies that many false teachers teach.

-This is why the Bereans studied the Word of God to make sure that Paul's teaching was true (Ac 17:11).

-This is why we Christians must know the Word of God so that we can know when lies are being taught.

-This is why we Christians must remain watchful.

Let's read 1 Timothy 4:4-5

4-For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving,

5-because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

-Some religions say that some people must not marry and that we must not eat certain foods in order to be accepted by God.

-This is not from God, but Satan.

-This is because our acceptance by God is our belief in the death and resurrection of Christ.

-Because God created marriage and food, they are good.

-Because God created marriage and food, we are to receive them with thanksgiving.

-Before Jesus ate, He thanked the Father for the food.

-When Jesus fed five thousand people, He took the bread and fish, thanked the Father, and gave it to the people (Jn 6:11).

-When Paul was on a ship sailing to Rome, he took some bread, thanked the Father, and encouraged the others on the ship to eat (Ac 27:35).

-This is why we Christians pray and thank God before we eat food.

Let's read 1 Timothy 4:6

6-If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed.

-“A good minister” also means “a good servant.”

-Not only Timothy, but all Christians are called to be

good servants of the Lord Jesus Christ.

-We are called to point out or to explain to our fellow Christians that which is true and that which is false.

-If we fail to point out or explain truth, then the entire church suffers.

-We must, however, speak these truths in love.

-What does it mean to be “nourished” on the truth?

-It means that studying and learning the truths of God will strengthen our souls.

-In addition, if we teach the Word of God, we not only strengthen others, but we also strengthen ourselves.

-If we do not teach to others the truths of God which we have learned, what will happen?

-We will fail to grow and be strengthened ourselves.

-Here is an illustration:

-What happens to a river that cannot flow downstream?

-It becomes a swamp and the water becomes stagnant.

-This is the importance of not only learning the truths of God, but also teaching His truths to others.

-Just as a river that cannot flow will become stagnant, Christians stop growing if they do not share the truths of God with others.

Let's read 1 Timothy 4:7-9

7-Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly.

8-For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

9-This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance.

-What does the Word of God call false teachings?

-Godless myths and old wives' tales.

-False teachings are only stories that a woman would think about to frighten her children.

-What is one way we can recognize the difference between false teachers and the Word of God?

-False teachers talk a lot about our bodies, and how we can improve our lives here on earth.

-The Word of God, however, talks about our souls, and how we can improve our lives not only here on earth, but also in heaven.

-What is more important than physical training?

-Spiritual training.

-Will physical training prepare us for heaven and eternity?

-No.

-What is spiritual training?

-Growing in our knowledge of God.

-Although we need to work to get food, clothes, and a place to live, only spiritual training will prepare us for heaven and eternity.

Let's read 1 Timothy 4:10-11

10-That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe.

11-Command and teach these things.

-As Christians who have our hope in the living God, we work and try hard for two reasons:

-Firstly, because non Christians will go to eternal death, and we must work to help them to believe in Christ.

-Secondly, because our work as Christians will be judged by God.

-“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for

the things done while in the body, whether good or bad” (2 Co 5:10).

-When 1 Timothy 4:10 says that God is the Savior of all people, does it mean that all people will be saved?

-No.

-The Word of God teaches us very clearly that those who do not believe in Christ will be thrown into the Lake of Eternal Fire (Rev 20:15).

-Jesus also taught much about hell, saying that those who rejected Him would die in their sins (Jn 8:24).

-Therefore, what does 1 Timothy 4:10 mean that God is the Savior of all people?

-It can mean that Christ died to save all people.

-The only problem is that not all people want to be saved.

-It can also mean that God saves people’s physical lives here on earth even though they do not believe in Him.

-As good servants of God, we are commanded by God Himself to teach to others these truths of God.

Let’s read 1 Timothy 4:12

12-Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

-Because Timothy was young, it seems that Christians in the church looked down on him.

-It is not, however, the physical age of a teacher which is important.

-It is the spiritual age of a teacher which is most important.

-If a young teacher knows and teaches well the Word of God, his physical age is not important.

-The Word of God also teaches us to set an example for other Christians.

-Is a teacher a good example when he teaches the truth, but does not live according to the truth?

-No.

-It is when we live our lives according to the truth that we teach by example to others.

-Our speech, our conduct, our love, our faith, and our purity must all set a good example.

Let’s read 1 Timothy 4:13

13-Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching.

-We should not only preach and teach about God, but we

should also read out loud the Word of God.

-When Israel returned from exile, they built a high platform and Ezra read out loud the Word of God from dawn until noon (Ne 8:3-5).

-In Luke 4:16, we learn that the Lord Jesus stood up in the synagogue in Nazareth and read out loud the Word of God.

-The Word of God is a lamp for our feet, and a light for our paths (Ps 119:105).

-The Word of God is alive and active, sharper than any double-edged sword (He 4:12).

-The Word of God is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes (Ro 1:16).

-When Jesus was tempted by Satan in the desert, He overcame Satan by saying out loud the Word of God.

-There is nothing more powerful in eternity than the Word of God.

-This is because God and His Word are one.

Let's read 1 Timothy 4:14-15

14-Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their

hands on you.

15-Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress.

-As Timothy, all Christians have been given gifts by God.

-While our gifts may be different, they are all important in the family of God.

-There is no unimportant gift in the Body of Christ.

-This is why we must use our gifts that God has given us.

-If we do not use our gifts, we can lose them.

Let's read 1 Timothy 4:16

16-Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

-We should all watch our lives and beliefs closely.

-By spending time together with our fellow Christians, we can help one another to watch our lives and beliefs closely.

-While we can only persevere by the power of God, it is our responsibility to call on our God for His perseverance in our lives.