

## 1 Timothy - Commentaries by Paul J. Pascoe

CareLines: Volume 3, Fake

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1TI 1:5

Faith unfeigned.

1 Tim. 1:5

Unfeigned means unfaked - without hypocrisy. Are you "faking it"? Let's be real in our faith.

CareLines: Volume 3, Hold on

1TI 1:19

Holding faith, and a good conscience.

1 Tim. 1:19

These two things go together. If you are careless and indifferent in your Christian life and allow sin to ruin your testimony, you will lose that good conscience. There will be no power in your life and your testimony will be like a great shipwreck. Hold on to your good conscience.

CareLines: Volume 3, Aim

1TI 1:6

Some having swerved [not taking aim] have turned aside.

1 Tim. 1:6

Do you want to walk a steady, consistent Christian life? Maybe you have friends who have been turned aside and are no longer walking as Christians should be for the Lord's honor and glory. To avoid that sorrow in your life you need to "take aim" and keep your eye steady on the goal. The Lord will help you in your walk so that it's pleasing to Him. TAKE AIM.

CareLines: Volume 3, Gospel, The

DECEMBER 25

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 Timothy 1:15

Today most of the world will "celebrate" the birth of Jesus. For the most part it's just an excuse to have a good time. But the coming of Jesus into the world is one of the most important events that ever happened in this world. Another tremendously important event was His death. And yet another was His resurrection. Put these three together and you get the gospel. Christ Jesus came into the world - because He loved us - to save us and make us fit for heaven. Have you believed in Jesus as your own Lord and Saviour? That's the gospel - and it's VERY simple.

CareLines: Volume 7, Pure Heart

Now the end of the commandment is [love] out of a pure heart.

1 Timothy 1:5

The law cannot do what love can. So love with no ulterior motive (out of a pure heart) is the end of the commandment. There is nothing more to add to love. The commandment brings bondage; love brings freedom. We need to let love show. Others should be able to see the love of Christ in us. There is no law against love.

CareLines: Volume 7, Good Conscience

Now the end of the commandment is [love] out of . . . a good conscience.

1 Timothy 1:5

The Jewish religion had one major limitation. Their sacrifices only appeased the conscience for a while. Then the process had to be done all over again. But as a Christian we have a good conscience before God because our sins were dealt with when Jesus died. Never again will the question of our sins be brought up. So the commandment is set aside and replaced by something far better - love out of a good conscience. As the hymn says, "Our conscience has peace that can never fail."

CareLines: Volume 7, Faith

Now the end of the commandment is [love] out of . . . faith unfeigned.

1 Timothy 1:5

Unfeigned means un-pretended. A Christian with genuine, un-pretended faith will be loving. Faith that is artificial produces superficial love. Faith that is shallow will produce conditional love. But faith that is deep and real will produce real love. Having trouble loving certain people? Check your faith. How real is it?

CareLines: Volume 2, Prayer: 1

1TI 2:1

I exhort therefore, that . . . supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men.

1 Tim. 2:1

Supplication means to ask for something; intercession is to "plead with a person, either for or against others." Then there's prayer - just talking to the Lord, and thanking Him, for and in everything. Paul's instruction to Timothy was for him to practice all four aspects of prayer. We should do the same. The verse finishes that these four things should be done for "all men." Christianity reaches out to ALL.

CareLines: Volume 3, Prayer

1TI 2:1-2

I exhort therefore, that . . . prayers . . . be made . . . for kings, and for all that are in authority.

1 Tim. 2:1, 2

When was the last time you prayed for President Bush by name? (Brian Mulroney? He's Prime Minister of Canada!) Are you praying daily for the salvation of Saddam Hussein's soul? Scripture is very clear that we need to be specific in prayer. We tend to be very general sometimes and with one sentence cover everyone from pole to pole. God wants us to pray for individuals - by name. Let's pray this way -and see what power there is in specific prayer.

CareLines: Volume 3, Acceptability

AUGUST 25

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour.

1 Timothy 2:3

Have you ever asked the question, "What's wrong with doing that?" Today's verse is referring to the preceding verse which talks about living a life of godliness and honesty. Instead of trying to keep a list of "dos" and "don'ts" (which often leads either to self-satisfaction or to getting as close as we can to the "don'ts"), simply ask the Lord to help you live your life in a way that pleases Him.

CareLines: Volume 2, Degrees

1TM 3:13

For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree.

1 Tim. 3:13

Perhaps you are studying for a university or college degree. Have you ever considered this verse? We are told how to get, not just a degree, but a "good degree". Maybe the Lord has some useful function for you to perform in your local assembly. If you do that well, for the Lord's glory, you will have purchased a good degree in God's sight. That is more worthwhile than any degree which you may obtain from a school in this world.

CareLines: Volume 3, Slander

JUNE 2

Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.

1 Timothy 3:11

This verse applies to someone who has a position of responsibility in the local assembly. It is plain that not only the person himself but also his wife had to be clear of things like slander. Rather than slandering those around us (an activity that even those in the world look down on in disgust), it is so much better to be occupied with the things that are listed in Philippians 4:8. "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true . . . honest . . . just . . . pure . . . lovely . . . of good report . . . think on these things."

CareLines: Volume 3, Qualified

AUGUST 29

Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without.

1 Timothy 3:7

Chapter 3 of 1 Timothy describes the qualifications of "elders" and "deacons". You may never be in a position to do the work of an elder (you may be a sister, for instance), but we would like to challenge you to take these qualifications seriously for your own life. Today's verse is a good example of how we should live our lives -projecting a good testimony to the world. Read this chapter carefully and ask the Lord to help you to be qualified.

CareLines: Volume 2, Example: 2

1TI 4:12

Be thou an example of the believers, in word.

1 Tim. 4:12

How important it is to speak words that are good. So many (even those who say they are Christians) use terrible language. No cuss words or off-color words should escape your lips. Your language should show that you are a believer. That means we should talk as Christ talked - in love, compassion, and grace.

Be thou an example of the believers . . . in conversation.

In this verse the word "conversation" doesn't mean speech. It's a word that was used when the Bible was translated into English to mean the way you live. So let's rephrase our verse: Be an example of the believers in the way you live. Other people should be able to read your life like a book. And what they should read is: I am a Christian - my life is Christ-like. What an example to follow. Keep it up!

Be thou an example of the believers . . . in charity [love].

Feelings of hatred toward another don't have any place in a Christian's life. We should all hate sin, as God does, but we should always care about other people and try to find ways to show the kindness of God to them. The Lord showed kindness to everyone. He never held a grudge. He never had bitter feelings towards those who had wronged Him. We should be just like Him.

Be thou an example of the believers . . . in faith.

It says in 2 Cor. 5:7, "We walk by faith, not by sight," and in Romans 1:17, "The just shall live by faith." This should be our practice too. Do you trust the Lord for His safekeeping and care? Or do you worry about what tomorrow may bring? A Christian living by faith is one who looks up to God each day, leaves his cares with Him, and goes on with life in peace and contentment.

CareLines: Volume 2, Growth

1TI 4:15

Occupy thyself with these things; be wholly in them, that thy progress may be manifest to all.

1 Tim. 4:15 J.N.D.

Are you growing in your Christian life? Do others see the result of your studying the Word of God, of your using the gift that God has given you, of your behavior as a model of the believers? Do they see spiritual progress in your life?

CareLines: Volume 3, Exercise

JUNE 4

Exercise yourself . . . unto godliness. For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things.

1 Timothy 4:7,8 NKJV

There is a tremendous emphasis today on physical exercise, getting in shape, taking care of our bodies, staying fit. And all of these things do profit for a little time. But the only thing which has eternal benefit is exercising ourselves unto godliness. In other words, daily building ourselves up spiritually - consciously and in an organized way - so that our lives will be lived for the glory of God. Just as your level of performance in sports will be determined by your physical fitness and practice now, so your future enjoyment of Christ and your capacity to appreciate Him will be determined by your spiritual exercise from day to day.

CareLines: Volume 3, Example

JUNE 5

Be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

1 Timothy 4:12

From the time I was a preteen right through high school my mother said to me every morning as I left for school, "Son, be thou an example." Even though I sometimes resented it, her words had a tremendous preserving effect on my life, and I am very thankful now for her faithfulness then. The Word of God tells us, "None of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. . . . Whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's." We cannot live our lives in a vacuum and we cannot live our lives selfishly, thinking that what we do has no effect on other Christians. It does have an effect, whether for good or for bad. We are members of the same body and we are told to be an example.

CareLines: Volume 3, Service for Sisters

MARCH 30

Well reported of for good works.

1 Timothy 5:10

This is spoken of widows. One requirement before they could be financially cared for by the assembly was that they had done good works -and in addition that they were well reported of. Young sisters, start your good works while you are young. You're never too young to do good

to others.

CareLines: Volume 3, Contentment

JUNE 6

Godliness with contentment is great gain.

1 Timothy 6:6

We are assaulted almost every day of our lives with advertising that is specifically designed to make us discontented with what we are and what we have in this life. The message is clear - whatever you bought last week is not good enough today. Pressure, pressure, pressure. Satisfy yourself with something new, and better. Godliness with contentment runs totally contrary to the thinking of modern society. When we consider our eternal blessings in Christ and His daily blessings poured out on us we should be perfectly content. And it should show. The challenge is to avoid being swept along with the grumbling, complaining, grasping, dissatisfied crowd and ENJOY WHAT WE HAVE in Jesus.

CareLines: Volume 3, Service

NOVEMBER 23

Rich in good works.

1 Timothy 6:18

In North America we live in relative affluence. This verse is written to rich people. It's a warning that we should not trust in our riches (which may be gone tomorrow), but rather remember to be rich in good works. By so doing we will be building up treasure in heaven. Earthly banks sometimes fail and close down. But the Bank of Heaven is growing in "assets" every day as its members are serving the Lord with a cheerful heart - doing good works.

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