

TO A NEW GENERATION

Paul Writes
to Timothy
2 Timothy 1;
3:14–17
AD 68

OVERVIEW

BIBLE TRUTH

The Holy Spirit teaches us through God's Word.

BIBLE VERSE

All Scripture is breathed out by God. 2 Timothy 3:16

LEARNER GOAL

I know God works through His Word to help my faith in Jesus grow.

LAW & GOSPEL

In my sin, I am ashamed of God and His Word.

God forgives me of my sins and equips me to share His Word with others.

SCRIPTURE SNAPSHOT

Paul writes this instructive letter to his spiritual son, Timothy. As the pastor of the Church in Ephesus, young Timothy relies on Paul's experience and advice. Paul's words to Timothy encourage all believers in Christ: "The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost" (1 Timothy 1:15).

LESSON PREP

BASIC Read the Bible text and notes in *The Lutheran Study Bible*.

MORE TIME Read the leader devotion found in the online digital resource center.

IN DEPTH Read "Paul and Timothy" in *Know the Bible Now* (pp. 330-31).

SUPPLY LIST

FOR THIS LESSON

- Rice or cornmeal, cookie sheet & straws
- Blocks
- Children's books, informational books (e.g., gardening book, cookbook) & Bible
- Pictures of grown-ups (e.g., doctor, pilot, farmer, teacher, cook, firefighter, pastor)
- Nutritious foods (e.g., carrot sticks, apple slices) or ingredients for smoothie (frozen strawberries, milk, banana, vanilla pudding mix & raw spinach)
- Paper plates, jumbo craft sticks, Washi tape & decorative paper & supplies

FOR EVERY LESSON

- Bible, songbook & classroom supplies
- Copies of *Discover Leaflet*, stickers & music downloads
- Supplies for bonus activities
- cph.org/digitalcontent



LEADER NOTE

Greet each child and show the children where to put their offerings. Direct them to an activity that will connect what they know to what they will learn. If class time is short, omit these and start with Jesus Time.



BONUS ACTIVITY

Use the “Sequencing” activity as an additional prelearning activity.



LEADER NOTE

Hold up your Bible before you tell the Bible story. Remind the children that the Bible is the most important book of all because it is God’s true words for us. It tells us everything we need to know about God and His Son, Jesus.

LAUNCH

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

SENSORY Put rice or cornmeal on a cookie sheet. Let the children use straws or their finger to draw pictures or write their name. Ask, **What word or picture did you make? You are making messages. Messages tell us something important like our name or something we like. God has good-news messages too. Those messages are in the Bible. Today we’ll learn about Paul’s helper Timothy, whose mother and grandmother taught Him about God from the Bible.**

BLOCKS Encourage the children to build with the blocks and to sort them by size from smallest to biggest. Say, **This tower is small. This one is bigger. This one is the biggest of all. When you were a baby, you were small. But now you are bigger. Someday you will be even bigger! Your love for God is growing bigger too. God helps you grow in faith and love through His Word. Today you’ll hear how a boy named Timothy learned from God’s Word.**

JESUS TIME

SING “Father, Hear My Prayer” (digital resource center) or “The Best Book of All” (*Little Ones Sing Praise*, p. 49)

SAY **Hi, boys and girls. Do you remember Paul? Briefly review what you’ve learned so far. Today we’re going to hear about Paul and his friend Timothy. Timothy learned about God from the Bible when he was little, just like you. I wonder, what is your favorite Bible story?**

PRAY **Thank You, God,* for sending Jesus* to be our Savior.* Help us listen* and learn* more about Jesus* and His love* from Your Word.* Amen.***

LEARN

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Have several children’s books, informational books (e.g., gardening book, cookbook), and your Bible. Show a children’s book. Ask, **Who tells you stories or reads to you at home?** Accept answers. Show another book or two. **What are these books about?** (E.g., a gardening book tells you how to plant and care for flowers; a cookbook tells you how to make delicious cakes or cookies.) Ask, **Which book tells us about Jesus?** Accept answers. Say, **The Bible is my favorite book of all because it tells us about God and His love. It tells us that Jesus came to be our Savior. Our Bible story is about a boy named Timothy and how he liked to listen to stories too. He especially liked listening to God’s Word. When he grew up, he became Paul’s helper.**

TELL THE BIBLE STORY

Show your Bible and remind the children that the story comes from God’s Word, the Bible. Tell the Bible story in your own words, using the *Discover Leaflet* as a guide.

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE

Say, **We heard how Timothy learned about God from His Word, the Bible. Open Bible to verse. The Bible is the most important book of all. It tells us everything we need to know about God and His Son, Jesus. It tells us Jesus paid for our sins on the cross so we could be forgiven. Our Bible words for today are from one of Paul’s letters to Timothy. Paul says, “All Scripture is breathed out by God” (2 Timothy 3:16). This means the Bible is God’s true words to us. Say the verse with the children.**

LIVE

DISCOVER LESSON TRUTHS

Separate each *Discover Leaflet* into two pages. Send the first page home with each child, or put the page into a purchased binder. Hand out the second page and crayons.

SIDE 1 Say, **This picture shows Paul writing a letter to Timothy.** Review the story as the children color the picture. Ask, **Who read Bible stories to Timothy? What did Timothy learn about God from His Word? What did Timothy do when he grew up?** Accept answers. **Yes, Timothy became Paul’s helper and told people about Jesus.**

SIDE 2 Have the children color the cross by all the children who are learning about Jesus (from the Bible, from songs and art that faithfully tell what God’s Word says, etc.). Say, **The Holy Spirit works through the Bible words these children hear to help their faith grow. They will grow bigger and bigger. God helps their faith grow bigger too. I wonder what they will do when they grow up?** Accept answers. **Draw lines to what you think they might do. How can they serve Jesus in what they do?** Say, **You learn about Jesus from God’s Word too. What would you like to do when you grow up? Maybe some of you will be farmers or doctors or bakers. Maybe some of you will be pastors or teachers. No matter what you do, you can share Jesus’ love with others** (e.g., Jesus works through doctors and nurses to care for those who are sick and make them better; police and firefighters help keep people safe; chefs and cooks make food for us to eat; pastors and teachers tell about Jesus). Talk about how we can also pray for others and tell them about Jesus. Also remind the children that they don’t have to wait until they are big to do this. They can share about Jesus and show His love now.

ENGAGE IN ACTIVE LEARNING

Take time to reinforce lesson truths with one or more of these active-learning options. Turn to “Active Learning” on the back page for instructions to do the activities below.

□ MOVE

Have the children act out what they want to do when they grow up.

□ SNACK

Serve nutritious foods, such as fruit smoothies.

□ CREATE

Make fans. Talk about how fanning a fire makes it burn brighter and how God wants us to share the faith He gives us through His Word with others.

CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING

Give the children an opportunity to tell what their favorite part of the story was. Ask, **Who read Bible stories to Timothy? What did Timothy learn about God from His Word? Who reads Bible stories to you? What do you learn about God?**

LEAVE

SING “Jesus, You Are Always Near” (digital resource center) or (Tune: “Oh, Do You Know the Muffin Man?”):

Oh, do you know who died for you, who died for you, who died for you?

Oh, do you know who died for you? His name is Jesus Christ.

Oh, yes, I love to hear God’s Word, to hear God’s Word, to hear God’s Word.

Oh yes, I love to hear God’s Word to learn that Jesus saves.

SAY The Holy Spirit works through the Bible to help my faith in Jesus grow.

PRAY Dear God, thank You for Your Word, the Bible, where I learn that Jesus is my Savior. Help me grow stronger in faith. Help me tell about You. Amen.



CHRIST CONNECTION

The Holy Spirit works through God’s Word to give us the gifts Jesus won for us on the cross.



BONUS ACTIVITY

Use the “Timothy and Me” action poem.



BONUS ACTIVITY

Make a “God’s-Child Necklace.” This project will take two weeks because it needs time to dry. Talk about how God works through His Word to make us His child and help us grow in faith. What are things God’s child does?

ACTIVE LEARNING

□ MOVE

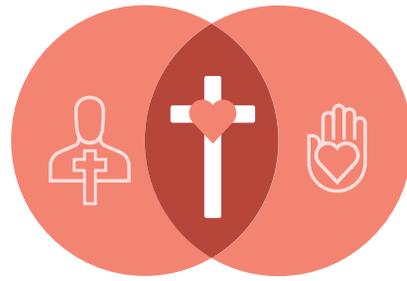
Show pictures of people at work (e.g., doctor, pilot, business person, teacher, cook, firefighter, pastor) and discuss grown-up occupations. Ask children to act out what they want to be when they grow up, and have the other children guess. Say, **God helped Timothy grow and learn about Jesus. When Timothy got older, he became a missionary and pastor. God has helped you grow and learn since you were a baby. He will continue to help you grow bigger and learn, and someday maybe you will be [name a few jobs]. Best of all, God helps you grow in faith in Jesus through His Word. On your own, you could never know about God or love Him, but God has given you parents and a church family to teach you about Jesus, your Savior.**

□ SNACK

Serve nutritious foods (e.g., carrot sticks, apple slices) or make a health smoothie (blend frozen strawberries, milk, banana, vanilla pudding mix, and raw spinach). Talk about how our bodies need nutrients every day in order to grow and stay healthy. God also helps us grow stronger in faith when we hear His Word.

□ CREATE

Trace around a paper plate onto the wrong side of decorative paper and cut out two circles. Wrap a jumbo craft stick with Washi tape to make a handle for the fan. Glue to the back of the paper plate with part extending below it. Glue the paper circles to each side of the plate. Add other decorations and the Create stickers. Talk about how Paul told Timothy to “fan into flame the gift of God” that was in him (2 Timothy 1:6).



CONNECTING IDENTITY & CALLING

IDENTITY: WHO AM I?

God gives me His Word to prepare me to serve Him.

CALLING: WHY AM I HERE?

I can serve the Lord as I encourage and support those in the Lord’s ministry.

GROWING IN FAITH FOR LIFE

See how this lesson builds on previous learning for each age.

ADULT

I can consider and appreciate the importance of God’s work through His Word in the life of the Church.

YOUTH

I can give examples from the text that show how the Holy Spirit teaches us through God’s Word.

ELEMENTARY

I understand that God raises up special leaders for His Church.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

I know God works through His Word to help my faith in Jesus grow.

★ BONUS ACTIVITIES

SEQUENCING

10 minutes

Make a folder with pictures of a baby, toddler, young child, teenager, parent, and grandparent. Have the children arrange the figures into various groups (“boys” and “girls,” in order from tallest to shortest, etc.). Then ask them to arrange them from youngest to oldest. Say, **God the Holy Spirit helps us learn about Jesus from God’s Word. He helps us grow bigger; He helps our faith grow too.** Point to grandparent. **Even when we are as old as grandparents, we can still learn more about Jesus from His Word.**

TIMOTHY AND ME

15 minutes

Timothy was a little boy. (*Squat.*) **He grew and grew and grew.** (*Gradually stand until on tiptoes.*) **He ate good food, slept at night, played, and helped at home.** (*Pantomime actions.*) **Just like me and you.** (*Point.*) Ask, **Who read Bible stories to Timothy? What did he learn? Timothy learned to love our God.** (*Hug self.*) **His love just grew and grew and grew.** (*Open arms bigger.*) **He loved the stories in God’s Word, listened at home, at church, and school.** (*Point to ears.*) **Just like me and you.** (*Point.*)

GOD’S-CHILD NECKLACE

20 minutes

Note: Make cross this week. Paint it next week. Shape a fist-sized piece of white air-dry clay into a ¼-inch-thick circle to resemble a small pancake. Use a sharp nail or a wooden stylus to etch a heart and cross or other symbol into the clay. Poke two small holes at the top of the circle. Let the clay dry overnight on waxed paper. Use a small rag to rub a little acrylic paint over the etched areas to highlight the carvings. Let dry. Thread a 24-inch cord through the holes in the circle. Tie to make a necklace.