

Acts 16:1-5; 1 Timothy 6:11-16; Matthew 24:42-47 ESV

Timothy

Let's Learn About Him; then Gladly Be Like Him!

Sunday, January 24 at 8:00 & 10:45 + Monday, January 25 at 7 PM

St. Timothy, Pastor and Confessor

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: "Hero"

What is a hero? A hero is a person who is admired for *great or brave acts* or *fine qualities*.

⇒ Who is your hero?

⇒ Do you want to be like that person?

Today we will learn about a man named Timothy; let's follow his godly example!

HYMN OF THE DAY – Part 1: "I Love Your Kingdom, Lord" LSB 651, sts. 1-2

Acts 16:1-5 ESV – Who was Timothy?

¹Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra [*located in modern-day Turkey*]. A disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek. ²He was well spoken of by the brothers at Lystra and Iconium. ³Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him, and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. ⁴As they went on their way through the cities, they delivered to them for observance the decisions that had been reached by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem. ⁵So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and they increased in numbers daily.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

1. What does it mean that Timothy was a disciple? "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy

Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Mt. 28:19-20 ESV).

2. His mother was a believer; it is implied that his father was not a believer 😊.
3. He was well spoken of by the other believers, by people who saw Timothy's union with Christ through his words and actions. Would believers come to the same conclusion about you? Y N
4. Try to imagine Paul's conversation: "Timothy, I want you to come with me; also, as we reach out to Jews, it will be important for you to be circumcised." Did Timothy say, "I'm willing to go with you, **but**..." or was he willing to do **whatever** to honor His Savior and Lord? What is your attitude about God's desire for your life?

HYMN OF THE DAY – Part 2: "I Love Your Kingdom, Lord"

LSB 651, st. 3

1 Timothy 6:11-16 ESV – Part of Paul's letter to Timothy.

¹¹ But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. – What things? Vv. 9-10: "...those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs [*griefs, sorrows*]."

[So instead of loving money,] Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness.

¹² Fight the good fight [*or we could translate: struggle the good struggle*] of the faith. [By God's grace] Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

¹³ I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, ¹⁴ to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord

Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

1. The good confession; that could be a reference to Timothy's confession of his faith when he was baptized. Most of us made a similar confession when we were *confirmed*; we vowed: ➔to hold to the Word of God – *to learn it and live it* and ➔to *hear the Word and receive the Supper* faithfully. Vows are to be taken seriously: ^{ESV} **Ecclesiastes 5:4-5** “When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it, for he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you vow. It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay.”
2. Think about Jesus before Pilate: He did not back down or compromise; *He told the truth!* That is an example for Timothy and for us.
3. What commandment? What does that mean? Dr. Kretzmann said it was “**the sum of the entire body of Christian doctrine entrusted to him...** [he also added that] **The gift of the pure doctrine is too precious to permit any careless handling**” (NT II:396). Since it is God's truth that sets us free from our sins condemning us, *it is vital that we never lose or compromise that precious truth!*

↑ **HYMN OF THE DAY – Part 3: “I Love Your Kingdom, Lord”** LSB 651, st. 4

Matthew 24:42-47 ESV – Let us be like Timothy, a wise and faithful servant!

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴² Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.

⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

⁴⁵ “Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? ⁴⁶ Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes.

⁴⁷ Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ. ↓

1. Stay spiritually awake, alert: God will keep us in that important state as He works in our lives through His Word, so let us welcome His work!
2. Wise: As it is *wise* to be ready for a thief, so it is *much wiser* to be ready for Jesus!
3. Ready: Those who know Jesus as their Savior and Lord are ready! They have been baptized into Christ; then, *resulting from their union with Jesus*, they desire to learn and live what Jesus taught.

Conclusion:

- As Timothy was well spoken of by other believers, *may that also be true for us!*
- As Timothy was willing to do whatever to serve His Lord, *let us do the same!*
- Since we made solemn vows, *may God enable us to keep them!*
- Since Jesus did not compromise the truth, *let us hold to it at all cost!* And all God’s people said: **Amen!**

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