



DATE: 10 July 2024 WED
TEXT: **1 Timothy 4:13-16**
TITLE: **:: Like Timothy**

Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them;
that thy profiting may appear to all.

1 Timothy 4:15

REVIEW

Think like David: God's created works

Think like Asaph: God's previous actions

Think like John: God's marvelous love

Think like Haggai: God's great forgiveness

Think like Malachi: God's familiar names

Think like Joshua: God's prosperous Word

Think like Mary: God's incredible Son

INTRODUCTION

- Timothy was a young man who had grown up in a Christian home...this made him a second-generation believer

2 Timothy 1:5

When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

his father was an unconverted Greek and this affected his reputation among Jewish people

see **Acts 16:1-3**

for this reason, Paul later circumcised Timothy

- Timothy was called to serve as the pastor at **EPHESUS**...one of the larger churches Paul had started and led

1 Timothy 1:3 to abide still at Ephesus

imagine following THOSE footsteps

Acts 18:19 Paul reasoned with the Jews

tradition states the Apostle John was a part of this church

Apollos was a great teacher in the church there

Acts 18:24-25 an eloquent man, and mighty

disciples of John the Baptist were there

Acts 19:6-7 spake with tongues...prophesied

a book-burning revival took place in the city

Acts 19:17-20 price of them...fifty thousand

- another factor was Timothy's age...he was relatively young in comparison and this served as an intimidating component of his ministry

1 Timothy 4:12 despise thy youth

- so Paul encouraged Timothy to overlook all those fears and the apparent reasons why he *couldn't* be used of God in ministry...

1 Timothy 4:15

Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.

**In order to follow Timothy's example,
we must overlook fear and:**

1. CONTEMPLATE

...meditate on these things

Paul instructed Timothy to think on particular things

verse 13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

give attendance = to hold the mind towards; direct one's thoughts

reading = study of God's Word, etc.

exhortation = challenging others

doctrine = teaching found in the Bible

as a pastor, Timothy had to read the scriptures in order to know how to direct the ministry of the church

Psalm 119:18

Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.

2 Timothy 2:7 (2 Timothy 2:15)

Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.

from that reading and studying would come his challenge to others to do the same

2 Timothy 2:2

And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

what he taught them would be doctrine...what the scriptures teach and what the church believes

Hebrews 13:7

Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

2. CONSECRATE

...give thyself wholly [entirely] unto them

being a pastor was not merely a job with a regular paycheck...it was a **CALLING** and a **LIFESTYLE**

verse 14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

NOTE: author John Phillips points to Paul's use of the present imperative verb in Greek as an indication that Timothy might have 'settled into' his role as pastor

certainly, Timothy had reasons to be intimidated and uncertain in his calling

but Paul reminded him he had been set apart for this ministry and had a divine calling on his life

by prophecy is the way we identify Timothy's calling...did Paul see it first or did Timothy surrender???

laying on of the hands speaks to his ordination into the ministry...a church had set him apart for the work

Romans 12:1

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Philippians 2:13

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

a part of Paul's encouragement to Timothy was a reminder of his **SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

spiritual gifts are abilities specifically mentioned in scripture that are given by the Holy Spirit for the express purpose of serving God and bringing glory to Him

these are not to be confused with natural talents or abilities such as singing, writing, or playing sports, for example

Romans 12:4-8 **1 Corinthians 12:1-11**

NOTE: Paul mentioned the gifts of *healing, apostleship, speaking in tongues, and discerning of spirits...* these gifts were temporary, until the close of scripture

see **1 Corinthians 13:10**
and **Ephesians 2:20** *foundation*

the Bible lists seven particular gifts of the Spirit that are to be used in the church for the glory of God

prophecy (forth-telling)

ministry (helps)

teaching

exhortation (encouragement)

giving

administration (ruling)

mercy

* these are defined at the end of the notes

Just because you do not have a particular gift does not mean you can't participate in something all Christians should be doing.

~ Paul Chappell, *Continue*

3. COMMUNICATE

...that thy profiting may appear to all.

as a pastor and a believer, Timothy's life was to serve as an example to others who observed his lifestyle

profiting = pioneer advance

this carries the idea that Timothy would lead the way and seek out 'new territory' for others who came after him

cf Wagon Train and the scout

verse 16 Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

2 Timothy 2:25

In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves...

Philippians 1:12, 25

But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the **furtherance** of the gospel...And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your **furtherance** and joy of faith;

1 Timothy 4:11-12

These things command and teach. Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

prophecy is a two-fold gift: *foretelling* and *forth-telling*...foretelling is what people often associate with prophecy: predicting future events...forth-telling is the ability to declare God's difficult truth clearly

ministry is also called *helps* in the Bible...it is a desire to serve and help people in a variety of ways...often in non-glamorous and unappreciated jobs

teaching is the ability and desire to teach God's Word and help people understand and apply it in their lives

exhortation is the ability and desire to encourage others...exhorters are especially concerned with the heart; they want to motivate others to love and serve God with whole-hearted passion

giving is the ability and desire to give to God's work...those with this gift are generous by nature and are unobtrusive in their giving *simplicity*

administration is also called *ruling*...this gift enables a person to lead and administrate part of God's work...it reveals itself through a natural ability to organize, think strategically, and implement a plan

mercy is the God-given ability to feel the pain of others and help them during times of difficulty...those with this gift are good at empathy and carrying heavy burdens



THINK reading list:

Acts 13:1-4 Romans 12:1-8 1 Corinthians 12:1-12



THINK playlist:

I Surrender All

Beyond Measure by Jeremy Camp

NOTE: *The Spiritual Gifts Test* is available to download on our website and phone app