

1 Timothy 1:1-2

1 TIMOTHY

PAUL'S TRUE CHILD IN THE FAITH

A SPIRITUAL FATHER AND HIS BELOVED SON

- Paul refers to Timothy as his child (Gr. *teknon*)—true, beloved, and faithful – 1 Timothy 1:2; 1 Corinthians 4:17; 2 Timothy 1:2; cf. Titus 1:4.
 - true (Gr. *gnesios*): “genuine, true, legitimate”
 - beloved (Gr. *agapetos*): “beloved, dear(est), only”
 - faithful (Gr. *pistos*): “faithful, trustworthy, reliable”
- The father-son relationship of Paul and Timothy was based on their connection to Christ and the faith and grace revealed by him – 1 Corinthians 4:17; 1 Timothy 1:2; 2 Timothy 2:1; cf. Matthew 23:9.

A SPIRITUAL FATHER AND HIS BELOVED SON

- Timothy became the child of Paul in that he constantly imitated the apostle – Philippians 2:22; 2 Timothy 1:13; 2:2; cf. 3:14.
- Paul was confident to leave Timothy to work with the Ephesian church, refuting error and preaching truth – 1 Timothy 1:3ff.
 - Correcting false doctrine – 1:3–20
 - Instructing Christians to pray and do their part in the church – 2:1–3:13
 - Preaching and practicing sound doctrine – 3:14–4:16
 - Respecting people in the church and teaching accordingly – 5:1–6:21

BUILDING SPIRITUAL FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

- We need spiritual father-son and mother-daughter relationships in the family of God today – 1 Corinthians 4:14–16; Philippians 2:22; Titus 2:3–5; 1 Timothy 5:1–2; cf. 2 Timothy 1:5; 3:14–17.
 - Such relationships increase our accountability and commitment to one another and deepen our confidence in one another – Galatians 6:1–2.
 - To build such relationships today, (1) older Christians must be diligent mentors and (2) younger ones must be humble learners – 1 Peter 5:1–5.

**“I WRITE SO THAT YOU WILL KNOW HOW ONE OUGHT TO CONDUCT HIMSELF
IN THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD” (1 TIMOTHY 3:15 NASB).**

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