

## **MAPPING OUT THE TRUTH**

**Quote:** “Even if you are on the right track, you’ll get run over if you just sit there.”—Will Rogers

### **Follow Paul’s Example**

During this time in his life, Paul felt as if it was close to the end. He took special effort to inform Timothy of some advice he felt was very important. He told Timothy to follow his example - not only in life, but in teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, and endurance. He even asked Timothy to follow his example in persecutions. Persecutions? Yes, Paul had endured so many persecutions and wanted Timothy to follow in the way he had handled them. Paul knew that at such an influential age Timothy would need someone to turn to. Paul had already walked the road of life and had laid footsteps for Timothy to walk in. In each of our lives we need people that we can follow. In this life, being a teenager is hard work and each one of us needs someone who has already walked that path, dealt with those pressures, and made those choices. Having a mentor allows you to have a physical being to look up to, turn to, and share with. Try to find a mentor that has some of the same characteristics as you have and someone who will try to live a life worthy of someone following them. Proverbs says that “He who walks with the wise will grow wise.”

**Who is your mentor? If you don’t have a mentor now, who would you like for it to be?** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Follow Childhood Learning**

Timothy had learned the sacred scriptures at a very early age. His mother Lois, and grandmother Eunice had taught him the scriptures and basics of Christianity. Paul urged Timothy to continue in those things that were taught to him at a young age. The things that we learn as children in church, through family, and others should never be forgotten or taken for granted. If you weren’t brought up in church, then whenever you accepted Jesus Christ as Savior is when you became a “child” of the King. We are never too old to stop memorizing Scripture. That is one of the most important parts of childhood learning. We should continually keep memorizing in order to grow in the Word. Reading it is never enough. We need to have those scriptures engraved in our hearts for the many times when we do not have a Bible in our possession. We need to continue to remember those simple truths that make up our Christian faith.

**What verse are you determined to memorize this week?**

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### **Follow the Scripture**

Paul's burden was for Timothy to continue his learning in the scriptures. He explained to Timothy that all scripture was inspired by God Himself. This Bible is our roadmap, and the author of our roadmap also designed all the roads, placed the cities, etc. Why would we not want to follow this map? Paul told Timothy that the scripture was profitable for about four purposes. The first was teaching. Teaching helps to reveal to people the information that is true. The second purpose was for rebuking. This means that scripture not only tells you that which is true, but also that which is false. The next purpose is correcting how we live. Scripture will show us how we should be living and the paths we should be taking in life. The final purpose is training in righteousness. Scripture will give you the rules and provide us the instructions we need to live.

The result of following a mentor, keeping childhood faith, and following scriptures should produce a complete, mature individual. This should allow you to be equipped for every good work. Each and every person should settle in their heart to make Bible study and memorization a daily activity. We should continue to live in the Word and make it a vital part of our life. God has been gracious enough to give us a map, helping us through our journey of life. This map is full of truth and will not lead you astray.

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