

**1 Timothy 4** Spirit speaks clearly! Do not have to walk in darkness and the? of what next. Rhema word shines what is ahead – Spirit came to show us what is to come.

**(Please read chapter during the week).**

Timothy young pastor & leader in the Ephesian church – (2 Tim 1:7 – perhaps timid/concerned – a work in progress; perhaps 25-30 here but much younger in Acts 16 – a warrior but needed stirring up and he had Paul).

Physical training of some value; godliness has value (is profitable) for *all* things – in this life and the life to come. This is a faithful saying.

Need to care for ourselves.. but need to make sure we keep things in proper perspective in regard to the things of God.. physical care can do numbers of things for our health and we should be careful, tho' we have freedom, in what we do eat/drink.. All things permissible but not all beneficial – let us not be *mastered* by anything. Godliness improves everything.. 'on earth as it is in heaven'..

Best cure for error is a positive role model of truth.. living the life of godliness.

Verse 12: let no man despise your youth (or whoever you are); **let no one**.. we can do something about what others think of us by example by living beyond reproach – to a large degree we are responsible for others' opinion of us.

There is a pattern to *live up to* – *Christ*. Character is ultimate.

Do not let anyone look down on.... but **set an example in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity**.. must model our Christianity.. husbands love wives as Christ loved the church and gave His life for her; don't exasperate children – will catch example. Can speak about putting others' needs ahead but how do you model it? How do you live it? **By example**.

Acts 16 most amazing & productive time.. Timothy & Silas **saw** how Paul responded to the Holy Spirit. Travelling throughout the region.. see 'forbidden'... 'not permitted'... to preach the gospel in certain areas... **saw** Paul listening to God.. He says no, we say no. Timothy saw the application of truth.. knew the gospel is to be preached but were obedient 'where for now'.. kept going til had 'things to come'... Paul's vision... shared and they agreed to do so.

Didn't **look** so rosy.. one soul saved.. Lydia... stripped, severely flogged, in stocks, in prison; hurting – prayed and worshiped (instead of questioning if they got it right).. jailer asks 'what must I do to be saved' because **he saw** the real deal being modelled. (His family saved).

See in Paul's life: lived the life (5 aspects from 1 Timothy 4)

**Speech** could have been munjery but praised

**Life & lifestyle** reflected Christ

**Love** lived in it; not just passing through that place

**Faith** how he responded

**Purity** we use the word integrity.. resolvedness, understanding how much He loves us that we 'get back on'.. John Maxwell: asked about 'business integrity'.. his answer: 'no such thing – there is just integrity' – in business of not.. integrity holds you strong.

**Do not neglect your gift 1 Timothy 4** given you.. be diligent.. Matthew 25:14:30

Joseph: sold as slave as a teen

David: teenager anointed

Josiah: king at 8, 16 sought to serve Him, 20 reformed religion...

Jeremiah; called as teenager

Daniel; under 20 counsellor to the King

Mary; teenager when gave birth to Jesus Christ

Caleb; 85 as much vigour as when 40 (as much passion)

How He Loves us