CHRIST JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS

1 Timothy 1:1–20

Key Verse: 1:15

1. How did Paul introduce himself and why? (1) How does Paul’s description of God and of Christ relate to his personal testimony? (2a) What did Paul mean when he called Timothy his “true son”? (2a,18) Find out what you can about Timothy: Ac16:1–3; Php2:19–22; 1Th3:2; 2Ti1:4–7. What can we learn from him?

2. How would Paul’s greeting to Timothy in verse 2b help him carry out his pastoral duties? What hard task did Paul give him? (3,4a) How is God’s work done? (4b) What was Paul’s goal in commanding Timothy to put a stop to false doctrines? (5a) Why are having these things (5b) so important?

3. How did Paul describe false teachers? (6,7) In his mind, who needed to be taught God’s law? (8–11) How is the law related to “sound doctrine”?

4. Why was Paul thankful for Jesus? (12) What kind of person had he been? (13) Why was he shown mercy? What was it that changed him? (14) Read verse 15. What was the main purpose of Jesus coming into the world? (Lk5:31,32) Why did Paul say he was the “worst”? (Acts8:3)

5. Read verse 15 again. How can we accept this “trustworhy saying” personally? Why else was Paul shown mercy? (16) How is this encouraging to us? Why do you think Paul finished his personal story with this praise to God? (17) How is his personal testimony a contrast to the false teachers?

6. What did Paul want Timothy to remember and do? (18,19b) In light of this chapter, what does it mean to “fight the battle well”? What happens to us when we don’t hold onto “faith and a good conscious”? (19b,20)