

A BIT OF BACKGROUND

This letter was written by the Apostle Paul to Timothy, a young pastor. Such was the bond between them that Timothy was referred to by Paul as “my true son in the faith.”

Paul’s purpose was to strengthen, instruct, encourage, warn, etc.



...BUT SET AN EXAMPLE

1 Timothy 4

VSS. 1-5 YOU'VE BEEN WARNED

Symptoms of the falling away (apostasy):

Following deceiving spirits and demonic teachings

Liars with seared consciences

Practices clearly contrary to Scripture

VSS. 6-10

WHAT? NO MAGIC BULLETS?

Embrace and continue in:

The truths of the faith

Solid doctrine

Faithful living

Spiritual fitness (which benefits this life and the next)

Laboring and striving

Hope in the living God

ON DEFENSE

Deliberately reject godless myths and old wives tales

Who has time for that anyway,
in light of the seriousness of the situation
and the soon return of our Savior? (Vs. 1)

Guard your heart against criticism; by God's grace,
be exemplary in all aspects of life



Never lose sight of the mission

“Devote yourself...” Vs. 13

Never lose sight of the Spirit

“Do not neglect your gift” Vs. 14

See also 1 Cor. 1:26 - 2:5



VS. 15

Be diligent in your ministry

Give yourself wholly to the Call

By God's grace, it will become the
overflow of who you are...

Be always learning/growing. Your life is on display



VS. 16

“Watch your life...closely”

Brilliant orators who could masterfully handle the Scripture have been undermined and rendered useless by an undisciplined life.

“AND watch your doctrine closely!”

2 Timothy 4:1-5



And remember:

Your perseverance in these things will greatly impact
your spiritual health and that of those entrusted into
your care