

15. 1 Timothy 提摩太前書

1. 00:00-01:06 Picture 1. Paul's first letter to Timothy. Paul spent many years traveling about and starting new churches. He developed a large team of co-workers in this mission. _____ was one of these. Paul was once in the city of Lystra and he met Timothy's faithful mother and grandmother. He was _____ by Timothy's passion and devotion to _____. So Paul _____ him for many years and eventually started sending him on _____ to different churches. But Paul got word that some things were not going well in the church in Ephesus. Use picture 1 to explain why Paul wrote this letter. Use keywords as infiltrated, incorrect views, instruct, mission.

2. 01:10-02:13 Picture 2. Paul opens by recalling how he sent Timothy to Ephesus to confront these leaders who were spreading their strange _____. He describes how these guys are obsessed with speculating about the _____, specifically the early stories and genealogies in the book of Genesis. He describes how their teaching has _____ the church. Paul says this is actually the first clear sign that their teaching is _____. When genuine Christian teaching is done it is faithful to the way of _____. It results in _____ and genuine _____. He says the purpose of the Torah anyway is not to fuel _____. Rather, its purpose is to expose the _____ about the human _____, as it did for Paul. Correct teaching about the Torah will lead people to _____ the grace of God revealed in the Messiah who came to _____ sinful, broken people.

3. 02:16-02:58 Picture 3. Paul calls on Timothy to shut these men and their false teaching down. He then addresses very specific problems in this church caused by the _____ teachers. First of all, he calls Timothy to hold regular church _____ gatherings to pray for the governing leaders of Rome and for _____. Because peace in

1. 图片 1。提摩太前書是保罗给提摩太的第一封信。保罗花了很多年的时间去创办新教会。在此任务中，他培养了一大批同事。_____是其中之一。保罗曾经在路司得，遇到了提摩太忠实的母亲和祖母。提摩太对_____的热爱和忠心，给保罗留下了_____。保罗用心_____他，最后差派他去各教会_____。但是保罗得知在以弗所的教会里出了一些问题。使用图片 1 解释保罗为什么写这封信。使用关键字渗透，错误的观念，指令，任务。

2. 图片 2A。保罗回忆起他如何将提摩太送往以弗所面对这些散布_____的领导者。他描述了这些人是如何猜测_____的，特别是《创世记》一书中的早期故事和家谱。他描述了他们的教导如何_____教会。图片 2b 保罗说，这其实是第一个明显的标志，证明他们的教训是_____真理的。符合真理的教导，会忠于_____的道，激发_____和真实的_____，并使教会合一。他说，律法的目的不是让人_____，而是揭露人类_____，这也是保罗所经历的。对律法的正确教导，能让人_____神的恩典在救主身上显明出来，耶稣来，是为了_____罪人。

3. 图片 3。吩咐提摩太要制止这些人错误的教训。然后，他解决了这个教会中由_____老师引起的非常具体的问题。然后，他开始解决_____教师给教会带来的那些问题。首先，他叫提摩太定期进行教会的_____会，为罗马的政府官员祷告、祈求_____。因为只有当这块土地有和平时，才会出现一个_____的环境，让耶稣的

the land creates an _____ setting for Jesus' followers to keep _____ their message about the God of peace who wants all people to be _____, the God who sent Jesus as the only mediator to give his life as a ransom for all, in contrast to the false teachers. Paul reminds Timothy that God wants to _____ the whole world. _____ is going to keep this at the forefront of their minds.

4. 03:02-04:49 Picture 4. Paul then addresses problems related to men and women who are being influenced by these corrupt leaders in Ephesus. He first shuts down a group of men who were getting drawn into angry theological disputes started by the teachers. He says these guys should learn how to pray. Then he confronts a group of wealthy women in the church. (A) Use picture 4 to explain in your own words how these women were misbehaving. (B) Paul goes on to explore the story of Adam and Eve. How Eve was the first to have sinned. Read 1 Tim 2:8-15. This section is hard to understand. There are three (3) possible views that explain what Paul could have meant. What are these?

5. 04:54-05:43 Picture 5. Paul continues to address this leadership _____. He calls Timothy to appoint a small _____ team of husbands and fathers who will act like _____ or _____ for the church. These should be men of outstanding _____ and _____. They will work alongside a team of deacons. It is a Greek word that means _____. These are men and women who actually lead and do the ministries of the church. they are to have the same kind of _____ as the elders. Altogether, these people should be known for _____ relationships and their families because that will _____ their ability to lead in the _____, which is _____ family. The way of life that they live all together is _____ with the story about _____ which is

门徒能继续____神的福音。这位神希望所有人都____，因此祂差派耶稣成为唯一的中保，让祂舍命作所有人的赎价，这与假教师的所作所为完全相反。保罗提醒提摩太，神要____整个世界，____可以让他们将这件事牢记在心。

4. 图片 4。接着，保罗着手解决被以弗所这群假教师影响的男人和女人的问题。他先斥责那些男人，他们卷进了一场激烈的神学争论中，这些争论是这群假教师的错误言论引起的。保罗说：“我愿男人无忿怒，无争论，举起圣洁的手，随处祷告。”然后，他斥责教会里面一群有钱的女人。(A) 用你自己的言语来解释图片 4 来解释这些女人的不良行为。(B) 保罗继续探讨亚当和夏娃的故事。夏娃是第一个犯罪的人。阅读提摩太前书 2: 8-15。这部分很难理解。有三种可能的观点可以解释保罗的意思。这三种观点是什么？

5. 图片 5。保罗继续处理教会领导层的____，他让提摩太指定一些_____的丈夫和父亲做教会的____或____。他们需要____出众和____，他们会和一群“执事”合作，希腊文的意思就是“_____”，执事就是在教会中做各项事工的人。要求他们和长老一样，要有_____。更重要的是，他们要有_____的家庭关系，因为这才能____他们有能力维系_____这个_____家。他们活出的这种生活样式是和_____的事迹_____的。这部分结尾的诗中表彰了耶稣的事迹，他的道成肉身、受死、复活、被高举为王、神的教会将扩展到整个世

explored in the closing poem about his incarnation, his death, his resurrection, his exaltation as king, then the spread of his new family throughout the whole world.

6. 05:47-06:47 Picture 6. Paul's second body of instructions for Timothy are again very specific to the problems caused by these bad leaders. He first corrects their bad theology. They have been telling people to stop eating certain kinds of _____, most likely _____, and to stop getting _____, which Paul thinks is ridiculous. So he goes to Genesis 1. He reminds Timothy that God's entire creation is very _____, including _____ and _____. It is all to be received with gratefulness by those who know and give thanks to the _____. Paul then moves on to address problems about the church's care of widows. This very important ministry was being taken advantage of by _____ wealthy widows, most likely the same trouble making women from chapter 2. They would sign up for the church's support but then spend their days _____ around, spreading _____ and _____ the church's reputation in the city. Paul is having none of it. He says that only older widows that have no other family support qualify. For these, the church should show the love of generosity of Jesus.

7. 06:51-07:48. Paul then addresses problems among some older men in the church. Timothy is to respect their _____, but not their _____ which seems to be _____-related. They are _____ the church's reputation in Ephesus So Timothy is to confront them and have them step down if they are in _____. Paul adds this interesting side note that this does not mean that Timothy himself should never drink. Given his _____ problems, he should probably have a glass of _____ each night with dinner. Paul then addresses a problem among Christian slaves. Question: what was the problem with the behavior of these

界。

6. 图片 6。在第二部分，保罗对提摩太的教导仍然是解决那群败坏的领袖引发的具体问题。他首先揭露他们错误的神学观念，因为他们教人要禁戒某些____，很可能是戒____；又教人禁止____。保罗认为，这些教导都非常荒谬。所以，他引用创世记第一章的内容，并提醒提摩太，神所造的万物都是____，包括____和____。那些认识____的人都可以怀着感恩的心来接受。然后，保罗着手解决教会看顾寡妇的问题。这项非常重要的事工被一群____、富裕的寡妇所利用，她们很可能与提摩太前书第 2 章中制造麻烦的女人是同一群人。她们参加了教会的事工，但每天懒惰不做工，____，____了教会在城中的声誉。对这样的事，保罗绝对是零容忍。他说，只有那些没有亲人照顾的年老寡妇才有资格得到救济。对这样的人，教会应该表现出耶稣的爱和慷慨。

7. 图片 7。随后，保罗讲到教会里一些上了年纪的男人的问题。提摩太要尊重这些____的人，但不能容忍他们的____，这里指的应该和____有关。他们____了教会在以弗所城的声誉，所以，提摩太需要在爱心中禁止他们；如果他们是教会的____，就要辞退他们。接着，保罗加了一条有趣的注解，他说，这并不代表提摩太本人不能饮酒。考虑到他__不好，他应该每晚就餐时喝点儿__。保罗然后在解决基督徒奴隶中的一个问题。问题：这些奴隶的行为出了什么问题？

slaves?

8. 07:55-09:08 Picture 8 Paul closes the letter by calling Timothy again to confront the _____ leaders. Paul here exposes their motives: to make lots of _____ by accumulating followers and then charging them all high rates for their _____. These teachers betrayed _____ and his message of contentment and _____ living. Paul instructs the wealthy Ephesian Christians to become rich in good _____ and _____, to be people who submit all of their resources to _____. He is the one who inspires the final poem about how he is the true king above all other kings. 1 Timothy is a really important letter. It helps us gain a holistic vision (which means: in its whole) of the nature and mission of the church. (1) What a Jesus community believes will directly shape how that community _____ and _____ in its city. So, its theology and its beliefs have to be constantly critiqued and formed by the scriptures and the good news about Jesus. How the church is perceived in public is also very important to Paul. (2) Christians should be known as people who are full of _____, known for _____ works, known for serving the poor and the most _____, all out of devotion to the risen King Jesus. That is what 1 Timothy is all about.

9. Use 1 picture to share 1 thing you have learned from this lesson about God the Father/Son/Holy Spirit.

Scripture reading:
1 Tim 2:8-15
1 Tim 3:1-13
1 Tim 5:1-16

8. 图片 8。最后，保罗在信的结尾再一次吩咐提摩太要制止____的领袖。保罗在这里揭露了他们的动机。他们想通过赢得更多的信徒来____，向信徒收取高昂的____费用。这些教师背叛了____，违背了他传讲的知足和____生活的信息。所以，保罗教导富有的以弗所信徒，要在____上富足，____，将所有财物献给____。正是神感动保罗做了结尾这首诗，诗中称颂耶稣是大有权能的万王之王。提摩太前书是一封很重要的书信，这封信帮助我们对教会的本质和使命有了一个宏观的异象。一间教会的信念会直接决定该教会在所属城市的____方式和____方式。所以，教会的神学和信仰必须时常接受圣经的对照和塑造。保罗认为，公众对教会的看法非常重要，基督徒应该被看作是____、____的人，是一群____、服事穷人和____者的人，他们做这些事的动机是出于对复活的君王耶稣的忠心。

9. 使用一张图片分享你从本课程中学到的关于父神/圣子/圣灵的 1 件事

经文阅读：

提摩太前书 2： 8-15

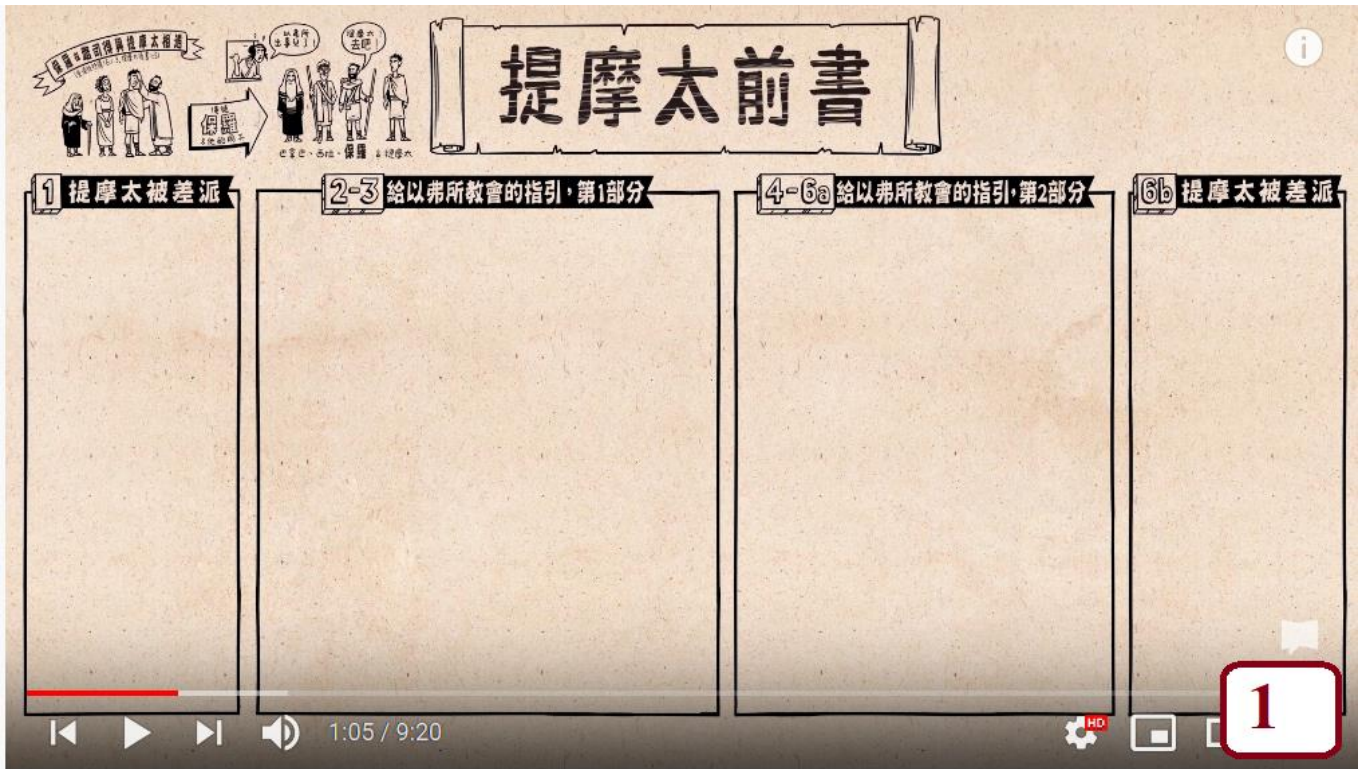
提摩太前书 3： 1-13

提摩太前书 5： 1-16

English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7RoqnGcEjcs>

國語: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QW86miR9CCY>

粵語: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZGDiD6srMY>





我不准女人教导或辖制男人。(2:12)

保罗是什么意思?

被译后书 3:16

- ① 女人不应该在教会做领袖或教导男人
- ② 女人不应该做领袖，但若她们受了教育，就可以教导
- ③ 这些以弗所的女人不应该当领袖，因她们被蒙骗了

4

4:27 / 9:12

犹尼亚

健康的关系

- 他们的家庭
- 神的家庭 (教会)

3:16

耶稣的故事

一首保罗所写的诗

5

5:32 / 9:12

1:1-16 更正错误的神学



5:1-16 看顾寡妇



6:40 / 9:12

6

5:17-25 控诉老年人



6:1-2 信基督的奴仆



7:47 / 9:12

7

一个关于教会的宏观异象

- 一间教会的信念 → 直接决定该教会的生活模式
- 教会应以它的正直 & 对贫穷人的服侍而闻名，而这些都是出于它对君王耶稣的忠诚。

给以弗所教会的指引, 第2部分

6b 提摩太被差派

误的神学

5:1-16 看顾寡妇

指责败坏的教师 & 他们对财富的欲望

[Q1]

00:00
Paul's first letter to Timothy.
00:02
Paul spent many years traveling about and starting new churches.
00:05
He developed a large team of co-workers in this mission.
00:08
Timothy was one of these.
00:10
Paul was once in the city of Lystra and he met Timothy's faithful mother and grandmother.
00:15
He was impressed by Timothy's passion and devotion to Jesus.
00:19
So Paul mentored him for many years and eventually started sending him on missions to different churches.
00:24
When Paul got word about a group of leaders who infiltrated the influential church in Ephesus--
00:30
they were spreading incorrect views about Jesus and what it means to follow him--
00:34
he sent Timothy to confront these leaders and restore order to this church.
00:38
After Timothy arrived there, Paul sent this letter to follow up and instruct him on how to fulfill this mission.
00:45
The letter has a really cool design.
00:46
There is an opening and closing commission to Timothy to go confront these leaders in their bad theology.
00:52
These surround two large central sections that are full of really practical instructions
00:57
about the problems that Timothy faced in the Ephesian church
01:01
Finally, all these sections are linked together or concluded by a series of three poems
01:06
that each exalt the risen Jesus as the king of the world.

[Q2]

01:10
Let's dive in and you will see how it works.
01:12
Paul opens by recalling how he sent Timothy to Ephesus
01:15
to confront these leaders who were spreading their strange teaching.
01:19
He describes how these guys are obsessed with speculating about the Torah,
01:23

[Q1]

保罗历经数年，到各地建立新教会。在宣教途中，他发展了一大批同工，提摩太也是其中的一位。在此之前，保罗在路司得城见过提摩太敬虔的母亲和祖母，提摩太对耶稣的热爱和忠心，给保罗留下了深刻的印象。保罗用心培养他，最后差派他去各教会服事。保罗听说，有一群领袖级人物渗透进以弗所这间有影响力的教会，他们传讲的耶稣和耶稣的教导充满了各种错误，他马上差派提摩太去教训他们，同时恢复教会的秩序。提摩太到达那里后，保罗寄去这封信，指导他如何完成这项任务。

这封信的结构很精彩，信的开头和结尾强调，保罗委派提摩太去跟这群领袖和错误的神学观念对抗；中间两大部分是告诉提摩太，当他面对以弗所教会存在的问题时，如何进行具体的教导；最后，保罗用三首诗把几部分联系起来，作为一个总结，每首诗都高举复活的耶稣为永世的君王。现在，一起去看看，你会更明白。

[Q2]

开篇，保罗回顾了他差派提

specifically the early stories and genealogies in the book of Genesis.

01:28

As we will see they had developed all kinds of weird teachings about food and marriage and sex

01:33

that were not consistent with the teachings of Jesus or the apostles.

01:37

He even names some of these people: Alexander and Hymenaeus.

01:40

He describes how their teaching has divided the church.

01:43

It has generated controversy.

01:45

Paul says this is actually the first clear sign that their teaching is distorted.

01:50

When genuine Christian teaching is done it is faithful to the way of Jesus.

01:54

It results in love and genuine faith.

01:57

He says the purpose of the Torah anyway is not to fuel speculation.

02:01

Rather, its purpose is to expose the truth about the human condition, as it did for Paul.

02:07

Correct teaching about the Torah will lead people to see the grace of God revealed in the Messiah

02:13

who came to save sinful, broken people.

[Q3]

02:16

Paul closes here with a poem that honors King Jesus over all.

02:20

He calls on Timothy to shut these men and their false teaching down.

02:24

He then addresses very specific problems in this church caused by the false teachers.

02:30

First of all, he calls Timothy to hold regular church prayer gatherings

02:34

to pray for the governing leaders of Rome and for peace.

02:37

Because peace in the land creates an ideal setting for Jesus' followers

02:42

to keep spreading their message about the God of peace who wants all people to be saved,

02:47

the God who sent Jesus as the only mediator to give his life as a ransom for all, in contrast to the false teachers.

02:54

Paul reminds Timothy that God wants to rescue the whole world.

02:58

Prayer is going to keep this at the forefront of their minds.

摩太去以弗所，跟那些散布荒谬教导的领袖们对抗。他说，这些人喜欢猜测律法的含义，尤其是创世记前面讲的故事和家谱；同时，这群人还借此发展出一串关于饮食、婚姻和性的荒谬言论，这些教导跟耶稣和使徒们传讲的真理完全不相符。保罗甚至提到了几个人的名字，亚力山大和许米乃，指出他们的诽谤导致教会的分裂。保罗说，这其实是第一个明显的标志，证明他们的教训是扭曲真理的。符合真理的教导，会忠于耶稣的道，激发爱心和真实的信心，并使教会合一。

他说，律法的目的不是让人猜测，而是揭露人类真实的境况，这也是保罗所经历的。对律法的正确教导，能让人看到神的恩典在救主身上显明出来，耶稣来，是为了拯救罪人。

[Q3]

保罗用一首尊荣耶稣大君王的诗作为这部分的结尾；同时，他吩咐提摩太要制止这些人错误的教训。

然后，他开始解决假教师给教会带来的那些问题。首先，他叫提摩太定期举行教会的祷告

[Q4]

03:02

Paul then addresses problems related to men and women

03:05

who are being influenced by these corrupt leaders in Ephesus.

03:08

He first shuts down a group of men who were getting drawn into angry theological disputes started by the teachers.

03:15

He says these guys should learn how to pray.

03:17

Then he confronts a group of wealthy women in the church

03:20

who were treating the Sunday gathering like a fashion show.

03:24

They were dressing so upscale that they would shame most of the other people who could not afford such a wardrobe.

03:30

Not only that but some of these women were also usurping leadership positions in the church.

03:36

They were teaching others the bad theology of the corrupt teachers.

03:39

So Paul shuts these women down.

03:42

He says they should not teach or lead in the church.

03:45

It goes on to explore the story of Adam and Eve and the serpent from Genesis chapter 3.

03:50

This is one of those sections in Paul's letters where, like Peter said, he is kind of hard to understand.

03:56

There are many different views about what Paul meant here.

03:59

Some think that Paul is prohibiting women from ever teaching or leading men in any church

04:04

and that his comments about Adam and Eve are about how God has ordered that only men should be leaders in the church.

04:11

There are others who think that Paul is prohibiting women from having leadership authority over men in a church

04:17

but that once educated, women should and can teach as leaders in a church under male leadership.

04:23

There are still others who think that Paul is only prohibiting these women in Ephesus

04:27

and that his comments about Adam and Eve are a comparison of how these women have been deceived by the false teachers.

04:33

Whichever view you take, Paul is clear that these Ephesian women need to come under Timothy's leadership

会，为罗马的政府官员祷告、祈求和平。因为只有当这块土地有和平时，才会出现一个理想的环境，让耶稣的门徒能继续传讲神的福音。这位神希望所有人都得救，因此祂差派耶稣成为唯一的中保，让祂舍命作所有人的赎价，这与假教师的所作所为完全相反。保罗提醒提摩太，神要拯救整个世界，祷告可以让他们将这件事牢记在心。

[Q4]

接着，保罗着手解决被以弗所这群假教师影响的男人和女人的问题。他先斥责那些男人，他们卷进了一场激烈的神学争论中，这些争论是这群假教师的错误言论引起的。保罗说：“我愿男人无忿怒，无争论，举起圣洁的手，随处祷告。”然后，他斥责教会里面一群有钱的女人，她们把主日聚会当成了时装表演；她们穿着高档，这让其他买不起这类衣服的人自惭形秽。不仅如此，有些女人还篡夺了教会的领导权，把假教师错误的言论教导给其他人。所以，保罗制止这些女人讲道，指出她们不应该在教会做教导、做领袖，并以创世记

04:40
and get a proper theological education.

04:43
The goal is to help them grow so that they could one day become like the outstanding female ministers

04:49
that Paul mentions in his other letters, like Phoebe or Junia or Priscilla.

[Q5]

04:54
Paul continues to address this leadership crisis.

04:56
He calls Timothy to appoint a small healthy team of husbands and fathers

05:01
who will act like elders or overseers for the church.

05:05
These should be men of outstanding character and integrity.

05:08
They will work alongside a team of deacons.

05:11
It is a Greek word that means servant.

05:14
These are men and women who actually lead and do the ministries of the church.

05:18
they are to have the same kind of character as the elders.

05:21
Altogether, these people should be known for healthy relationships and their families

05:26
because that will demonstrate their ability to lead in the church, which is God's family.

05:31
The way of life that they live all together is consistent with the story about Jesus

05:36
which is explored in the closing poem about his incarnation, his death, his resurrection, his exaltation as king,

05:43
then the spread of his new family throughout the whole world.

[Q6]

05:47
Paul's second body of instructions for Timothy

05:49
are again very specific to the problems caused by these bad leaders.

05:53
He first corrects their bad theology.

05:55
They have been telling people to stop eating certain kinds of foods, most likely meat,

05:59
and to stop getting married, which Paul thinks is ridiculous.

06:03

第三章中亚当、夏娃和蛇之间发生的故事引以为鉴。

这一段，是保罗书信中被彼得称为“难以理解”的一部分。很多人对保罗的意思有不同的看法：有人认为保罗是禁止女人在教会担任教导或者带领男人，他对亚当和夏娃的引用，表明神的意思是只有男人可以做教会的领袖；还有人认为，保罗是在禁止女人在教会里管辖男人，但如果她们接受了教育，就可以在教会做领袖，并教导人；还有些人认为，保罗只是禁止以弗所教会的那些女人，他对亚当和夏娃的引用，只是针对这些被假教师蒙骗的女人。

无论你同意哪个观点，保罗都清楚地表明，这些以弗所教会的女人需要接受提摩太的带领，接受合适的神学教育，目的是帮助她们成长，使她们有朝一日可以成为优秀的女执事，就像保罗在其他书信中提到的非比、犹尼亚和百基拉一样。

[Q5]

随后，保罗继续处理教会领导层的危机，他让提摩太指定一些品行良好的丈夫和父亲做教会

So he goes to Genesis 1.

06:04

He reminds Timothy that God's entire creation is very good, including food and marriage.

06:12

It is all to be received with gratefulness by those who know and give thanks to the Creator.

06:18

Paul then moves on to address problems about the church's care of widows.

06:22

This very important ministry was being taken advantage of by younger wealthy widows,

06:28

most likely the same trouble making women from chapter 2.

06:31

They would sign up for the church's support

06:34

but then spend their days sleeping around, spreading gossip and damaging the church's reputation in the city.

06:40

Paul is having none of it.

06:42

He says that only older widows that have no other family support qualify.

06:47

For these, the church should show the love of generosity of Jesus.

[Q7]

06:51

Paul then addresses problems among some older men in the church.

06:55

Timothy is to respect their age, but not their misbehavior

06:59

which seems to be alcohol-related.

07:01

They are damaging the church's reputation in Ephesus

07:04

So Timothy is, in love, to confront them and have them step down if they are in leadership.

07:10

Paul adds this interesting side note that this does not mean that Timothy himself should never drink.

07:15

Given his stomach problems, he should probably have a glass of wine each night with dinner.

07:19

Paul then addresses a problem among Christian slaves.

07:23

Some of them were disrespecting their Christian masters.

07:26

So, yes, the gospel creates equality among Jesus' followers.

07:31

However, Paul thinks that equality needs to be implemented in a strategic way

07:35

的长老或监督。他们需要品格出众和诚信，他们会和一群“执事”合作，希腊文的意思就是“仆人”，执事就是在教会中做各项事工的人。要求他们和长老一样，要有好的品格。更重要的是，他们要有健康和睦的家庭关系，因为这才能证明他们有能力维系教会这个神的家。

他们活出的这种生活样式是和耶稣的事迹一致的。这部分结尾的诗中表彰了耶稣的事迹，他的道成肉身、受死、复活、被高举为王、神的教会将扩展到整个世界。

[Q6]

在第二部分，保罗对提摩太的教导仍然是解决那群败坏的领袖引发的具体问题。他首先揭露他们错误的神学观念，因为他们教人要禁戒某些食物，很可能是戒荤；又教人禁止嫁娶。保罗认为，这些教导都非常荒谬。所以，他引用创世记第一章的内容，并提醒提摩太，神所造的万物都是好的，包括食物和婚姻。那些认识创造主的人都可以怀着感恩的心来接受。

然后，保罗着手解决教会看

that does not compromise the mission and witness of the church.

07:39

If Christians become associated with slave rebellions they are compromised.

07:43

The Christian transformation of the Roman household had to be implemented strategically

07:48

so that their neighbors could be persuaded and not repulsed by this new vision of God's family.

[Q8]

07:55

Paul closes the letter by calling Timothy again to confront the corrupt leaders.

07:59

Paul here exposes their motives: to make lots of money by accumulating followers

08:05

and then charging them all high rates for their teaching.

08:07

These teachers betrayed Jesus and his message of contentment and simple living.

08:13

Paul instructs the wealthy Ephesian Christians to become rich in good works and generosity,

08:19

to be people who submit all of their resources to King Jesus.

08:23

He is the one who inspires the final poem

08:27

about how he is the true king above all other kings.

08:30

1 Timothy is a really important letter.

08:32

It helps us gain a holistic vision of the nature and mission of the church.

08:38

What a Jesus community believes will directly shape how that community lives and behaves in its city.

08:45

So, its theology and its beliefs have to be constantly critiqued and formed by the scriptures and the good news about Jesus.

08:52

How the church is perceived in public is also very important to Paul.

08:57

Christians should be known as people who are full of integrity, known for good works,

09:02

known for serving the poor and the most vulnerable,

09:05

all out of devotion to the risen King Jesus.

09:08

That is what 1 Timothy is all about.

顾寡妇的问题。这项非常重要的事工被一群年轻、富裕的寡妇所利用，她们很可能与提摩太前书第 2 章中制造麻烦的女人是同一群人。她们参加了教会的事工，但每天与男人厮混，说长道短，破坏了教会在城中的声誉。

对这样的事，保罗绝对是零容忍。他说，只有那些没有亲人照顾的年老寡妇才有资格得到救济。对这样的人，教会应该表现出耶稣的爱和慷慨。

[Q7]

随后，保罗讲到教会里一些上了年纪的男人的问题。提摩太要尊重这些年长的人，但不能容忍他们的不当行为，这里指的应该和饮酒有关。他们破坏了教会在以弗所城的声誉，所以，提摩太需要在爱心中禁止他们；如果他们是教会的领袖，就要辞退他们。接着，保罗加了一条有趣的注解，他说，这并不代表提摩太本人不能饮酒。考虑到他的胃不好，他应该每晚就餐时喝点儿酒。

接下来，保罗要解决的是那些身为奴隶的基督徒存在的问题。他们当中有的人不尊重自己

的基督徒主人。尽管福音确实让耶稣的门徒在身份上平等，但保罗认为，实现这样的平等，要遵循一定的规则，不能危害教会的使命和见证。如果基督徒同奴隶的反叛扯上关系，就会危害教会的使命和见证。基督徒需要顺服权柄，敬虔、端正地行事为人，好让他们的邻舍可以被劝服，而不能让人因看见他们不守规矩而厌恶教会，也就是神的家。

[Q8]

最后，保罗在信的结尾再一次吩咐提摩太要制止败坏的领袖。保罗在这里揭露了他们的动机。他们想通过赢得更多的信徒来敛钱，向信徒收取高昂的讲道费用。这些教师背叛了耶稣，违背了他传讲的知足和简约生活的信息。所以，保罗教导富有的以弗所信徒，要在善事上富足，慷慨乐施，将所有财物献给君王耶稣。正是神感动保罗做了结尾这首诗，诗中称颂耶稣是大有权能的万王之王。

提摩太前书是一封很重要的书信，这封信帮助我们对教会的本质和使命有了一个宏观的异象。一间教会的信念会直接决定

该教会在所属城市的生活方式和行为方式。所以，教会的神学和信仰必须时常接受圣经的对照和塑造。保罗认为，公众对教会的看法非常重要，基督徒应该被看作是诚实、正直的人，是一群行善、服事穷人和软弱者的人，他们做这些事的动机是出于对复活的君王耶稣的忠心。

这就是提摩太前书的精义了。