

=BOOKS OF THE BIBLE=

Lesson 55

II Timothy

Objects to have:

Sign for this new book: II TIMOTHY

Be a Good Christian

Your mailman with a “letter” to Timothy, labeled Second Timothy

Pictures of the following:

A soldier, a farmer, an athlete, a student, a glass, a cup, a vase, a plate, a bowl, a servant

Your Bible.

Introducing the lesson:

We heard about Timothy last Sunday in our Sunday school lesson. Timothy’s home was unhappy. What made it unhappy? He was unhappy because his daddy was unsaved. Timothy did not ask Jesus to be his Saviour when he was a young boy; he waited until he was older. When Timothy finally did get saved, God told Timothy that He wanted Timothy to be a preacher.

After Timothy became a preacher, he had many things to learn. Paul wrote a letter to Timothy. In that letter, he told Timothy many things which Timothy should know. We found that letter in the Bible—in the New Testament part of the Bible. What was that letter named? I Timothy. We are not supposed to read other people’s mail, but the letters which we’ve been hearing about in Sunday school are found in the Bible. They are for all of us to read, even though they were written to other people.

Look at our mailman’s bag. There is another letter in here. I’m going to pull it out and see whose name is on this letter. Timothy’s name is on this letter, also. Here is the name of the writer of the letter; Paul wrote this letter, also. This is the second letter which he wrote to Timothy. I have read this letter to Timothy; it is here in my Bible. (Show the children the book of II Timothy in this letter.)

Telling the story:

Paul wrote to Timothy, “Timothy, you are a Christian. You have asked Jesus to be your Saviour. You are one person; and yet, as a Christian, you should be like many people.” That’s very interesting. I wonder how many people Paul thought Timothy should be like. You watch and listen. I have read II Timothy; I will tell you what Paul wrote to Timothy.

Paul wrote, “Be a good soldier, Timothy.” (Put up the picture of the soldier.) Let’s think about the job of a soldier. The job of a soldier is to fight the enemy. A soldier needs something with which to fight the enemy. The soldier needs some weapons. Soldiers who lived during the time that Timothy lived on earth used spears and swords, bows and arrows. They also used huge poles called battering rams to knock down gates and walls. They used darts which sometimes had fire on the ends of them. During our days, soldiers use guns of all kinds—rifles and cannons, machine guns, flame throwers, rockets, hand grenades, and bombs.

See how the soldier is dressed. He is wearing a uniform—a suit that looks like the clothes of his fellow soldiers. All the soldiers in the same army wear the same uniforms. They wear helmets on their heads to protect their heads. They wear good shoes and stockings on their feet. A good soldier’s clothing is clean. He is careful to wash his clothes when they get dirty and iron them when they need pressing. A good soldier takes care of himself. He eats the right food. He gets plenty of exercise. He gets the rest that he should have—he goes to sleep when he should. A good soldier also practices with his weapons. He learns how to use his weapons. A good soldier also learns all about the enemy. He knows what the enemy looks like. He knows how the enemy is dressed. He knows what the enemy will do to him.

Paul wrote to Timothy, “In order to be a good Christian, Timothy, you have to be like a soldier. The Christian has a weapon. The Christians’ weapon is the Bible. We Christians have to know what is in the Bible. If we are good Christians, if we are soldiers, we take good care of our bodies: never drinking liquor, never smoking cigarettes, never taking dope. We good Christians would always eat the right food and get enough rest and enough exercise. God gave us our bodies. He expects us to take good care of them. We good Christians would never eat too much candy and other “goodies”; too much is not good for us. We good Christians would eat our meat and vegetables and drink our milk.

Paul wrote to Timothy, “You have an enemy, Timothy. The Devil is your enemy. He is the enemy of every Christian. The Devil does not want Christians to do right. The Devil does not want Christians to learn their Bibles or go to Sunday school or church.” Good Christians fight the Devil by doing what God wants us to do. We go to church and Sunday school. We learn what is in the Bible, and we obey what the Bible teaches us to do.

Paul said to Timothy, “Be like a farmer, Timothy.” (Put up the picture of the farmer.) “Be like a farmer who has some fruit trees. Fruit such as apples and oranges and grapefruits and lemons grow on trees. A good farmer cuts away bad branches and twigs. A good farmer sprays the trees so that bugs do not eat the leaves or the fruit. A good farmer is always taking away weeds which would grow up and choke out a healthy tree. A good farmer watches over his trees so that they will get good fruit on them.”

As good Christians, we are supposed to be like farmers. We are supposed to have good fruit. When we tell someone else about Jesus and he asks Jesus to be his Saviour, that person is just like our fruit. To be good Christians, we are supposed to get other people saved. Other people won’t listen to us tell them about Jesus, however, if we are bad. Just like weeds would choke out a good fruit tree, so doing bad things would keep us from getting other people saved. (Discuss with the children some bad things that they should not do.)

Paul said to Timothy, “Be like a good athlete, Timothy.” (Show pictures of athletes, while saying the following.) “Be like a good baseball player, or a good football player, or a good track runner, or a good swimmer, or a good skier. Be like a good athlete, Timothy.” A good athlete takes care of himself. He does as the good soldier would do. (Review how a good soldier cares for his body.)

Living a good Christian life is like a runner running a race. While the runner is running his race, there are many people watching him. So there are many people watching us while we are living our lives here on earth. Be like a good athlete—take good care of your body and then run the race or play the game of life just like a good athlete.

Paul said to Timothy, “Study, Timothy.” (Show the picture of a student.) Jesus wants you to do a good job while you are in school. Jesus wants you to work hard. Jesus wants you to know the Bible. Whatever Paul wrote to Timothy is for us, too. Paul told Timothy to be a good student. We are supposed to be good students, too.

Paul said to Timothy, “Be a good vessel.” A vessel is something that holds something. (Show the picture of a glass.) A glass is a vessel. A plate (show the picture of a plate) is a vessel. (Show the picture of a bowl.) A bowl is a vessel. (Show the picture of a vase.) A vase is a vessel. All of these things hold something. What if the vessel is broken? It won’t hold the milk or the food or the flowers or the water that it is supposed to hold. What if the vessel is dirty? I would not want to eat or drink from a dirty plate or cup, would you? Flowers do not look pretty in a dirty vase.

A good Christian is supposed to be like a good vessel. A good Christian is supposed to be clean. A good Christian is supposed to think the right things. A good Christian is supposed to do the right things. A good Christian is supposed to keep his body clean; that’s so he can carry the Word of God to other people, that’s so that he can do the job that Jesus wants him to do.

Paul told Timothy, “Be a servant for Jesus, Timothy.”

(Hold up the picture of a servant.) A good servant will work for his master, and he will be loyal to him. A good Christian wants to work for Jesus. A good Christian loves Jesus. A good Christian wants to do whatever Jesus wants him to do.

Look how many things we are supposed to be. (Review them briefly.)

(Review with the children the names of the books of the New Testament studied so far.)

LEARN OUR BIBLE VERSE: II Timothy 3:16a, “All scripture is given by inspiration of God...”