

Biblical Leadership: A Study of 1st Timothy

Lesson 1 “Impartation”

I. Introduction - We are beginning a study on *1st Timothy* tonight. We are going to study *1st Timothy* because we just finished studying *Ephesians* and Timothy became the pastor of the church in Ephesus after the revival. The focus on this series is going to be “Lessons on Leadership.” Paul, as an older minister of the gospel wrote this letter to Timothy to mentor and develop him so he could lead this large and significant church.

A. We aren’t going to dig into too much of the background tonight because I’m to jump way ahead and look at a passage out of *1 Timothy 4:14* about impartation and we are going to pray for impartation for everyone in the room. Our specific focus will be those who are serving in some capacity because we want them serving with gift of God and the power of God, but we will pray for everyone because we want everyone in hear to have a radical encounter with Jesus and living in His strength, not your own.

B. Brief overview

1. Timothy was a protege of Paul who he met on his first missionary journey in Galatia. He began traveling with Paul on his second missionary journey and was mentored by him for the next 10 years or so.
2. Timothy was with Paul in Ephesus when the revival broke out from 52-55 A.D.
3. After Paul left, Timothy was installed as pastor. Paul wrote *1st Timothy* between 62-64 A.D. to encourage Timothy and to address some of the issues going on in the church in Ephesus.

II. Impartation

A. The word impart comes from **Romans 1:11**. We see from this passage spiritual gifts can be imparted and they are imparted to strengthen and establish us. It is not clear from scripture what gift Paul wanted to impart, but it is clear gifts can be imparted.

B. **1 Timothy 4:14-15** At some point in Timothy’s life, Paul and other elders laid hands on Timothy and prophesied over him and a gift was given/imparted to Timothy. This gift was most likely that of a pastor/teacher from **Ephesians 4:11**.

1. Did the gift come from Paul? No. It came from God, but God used Paul to lay hands on Timothy to impart the gift. Paul’s hands were like jumper cables that transmitted a Holy Spirit charge. Paul already had ministry, teaching, leadership working in his life so he had faith to believe for Timothy to receive.
2. Impartation of gifts to serve is like healing. The gift comes from God, not the minister, but God will use the minister to lay hands on and impart that which comes from God.

3. Timothy is then told to mediate on this prophecy and gift and give himself entirely over to it. We all need to do that when something is imparted to us.

C. **Hebrews 6:1-2** The laying on of hands is considered an elementary/foundational doctrine in the body of Christ.

D. Other Examples

1. **Acts 6:1-7** Appointing deacons to serve in the church. They did this so the apostles could give themselves to the word and prayer, so the church could grow.

2. **Numbers 11:16-17** and **Numbers 11:24-26**

a. The children of Israel began to complain because there wasn't enough food and Moses began to complain and said caring for all of these people was too much of a burden for him to carry alone.

b. God took the same spirit that was on Moses and gave it to 70 elders to empower them to serve and lead. **No laying on of hands in this case.**

3. Elisha was given a double portion of the spirit that was Elijah - **2 Kings 2**.

4. Randy Clark – Blaine Cook laid hands on him to operate in the gifts of the spirit. People then began to tell Randy, “Blaine ministers just like you.” Randy was like, “No. It's actually the other way around.”

5. Lawson story – laid hands on us – finances are going to double – quickly. They did double and now have almost tripled.

E. Qualifications - One of the things of note we see with Paul/Timothy, the 7 deacons, 70 elders, Elijah and Elisha, etc. is that there was a relationship and faithfulness of character of those who had gifts imparted to them.

1. **1 Timothy 5:22-24** - Some have taught this verse means don't lay hands on people hastily because if they have a demonic spirit on them it could jump off and get on you. That's not what this means because greater is He that is in you than He who is in the world.

a. This passage is talking about laying hands on folks to install them in a ministry office/position. We need to get to know them and ensure their proven character, chemistry, competence and then lay hands on them.

b. When we don't we can partake in their sins. Ex: We get a new location and I install a campus pastor I barely know. They could start teaching universalism and I partake in that sin because I put them in the role.

III. Conclusion - We are going to end the service tonight by laying hands on and praying for everyone in this room who wants prayer. If you serve hear, your team leader is going to pray for you. I've already prayed for them. Here's my instructions to you, mix faith in God's grace when they pray for you. Believe and receive. If you don't serve here and would like prayer, I'll pray for you.

