



## Welcome!

Welcome to the "Dig Deep" Bible studies. These studies are based on the message series, "Inside the Pastor's Mind," a study on the New Testament book of 1 Timothy. These short Bible studies are meant to help you take Sunday's message home and reflect on it throughout the week and apply it to your daily life. If you missed a message, or want to listen to it again, go to [www.fishersoffamily.org](http://www.fishersoffamily.org) and click on the "Media" link and download the message audio. We pray that you are blessed in your study of Scripture!

### Read 1 Timothy 1:12-20

Pastor Zach began his message by talking about Timothy's biography. We learn from Scripture that Timothy was:

- From a sordid background, or broken home (Acts 16:1)
- Young (1 Timothy 4:12)
- Sent to a broken church (1 Timothy 1:3)
- Sickly (1 Timothy 5:23)
- Afraid (1 Corinthians 16:10)

Which of these problems can you identify with? In spite of Timothy's less-than-impressive resume, God still used him to minister to others. What comfort does this give you as you seek to minister to others in Jesus' name?

Not only did Timothy have a less-than-impressive resume, Paul, the author of 1 Timothy, also came from a broken background. Why might Paul, formerly known as Saul, call himself the "worst of sinners" in verse 15 (look up Acts 7:54-8:1 and 1 Timothy 1:13 for help)?

Pastor Zach talked about, how in spite of Paul's former sinful life, God abundantly poured out grace on him (see verse 14). The Greek word for "pour out abundantly" begins with the prefix "hyper." Thus, Pastor Zach talked about how God has "hyper-grace" for us. Where in your life do you need hyper-grace right now? Because God's grace is hyper, can it ever run out if your sin gets too big?

Not only did God have hyper-grace for Paul, he also showed him patience according to verse 16. What kind of patience did God show to Paul? Notice how Paul talks about God in timeless terms in verse 17 (e.g., he is "eternal" and "immortal"). Notice how the attributes of God in verse 17 are reflected in his actions in verse 16 (i.e., an "eternal" and "immortal" God has "unlimited" patience). What attributes of God are most precious to you? How have you seen those attributes reflected in God's actions toward you?

Pastor Zach ended his message talking about the importance of "holding on" to the gospel as given in verse 15. Paul gives two examples of people who did not hold on to the gospel in verse 20. What did these two people do?

- Hymenaeus (2 Timothy 2:17-18)
- Alexander (2 Timothy 4:14)

According to verse 19, what happened to their faith because they did not hold on the gospel? Can you think of some things that people have done that have shipwrecked their relationship with God? How can you encourage others to hold on to the gospel, even during difficult times?