

# Personal/ Small Group Sermon Study

Week of May 8, 2022 A.D.

## Raise Up a Child in the Way He Should Go

The world has its views on how a child should be raised. Likewise, God has His view on how a child should be raised. The question is: which view are you following?

(Note: For every question which appears in this study, always give the reasoning and/or the explanation for each of your answers.)

### **Read Acts 16:1-5**

1. In Acts 16:1-2, the author (Dr. Luke) points out that Timothy's mother was a Jewess and a believer. This same passage points out that Timothy's father was a Greek. In your opinion, how would Timothy's ethnic background affect his message when speaking to the (a) Jews? and (b) gentiles?
2. In Acts 16:1 the author points out that Timothy was a disciple. What is a disciple? Must a Christian become a disciple to receive eternal life? Why should every Christian become a disciple? Are you a disciple? If so, how has discipleship changed your life?
3. Read Acts 16:2-5. Why did Paul ask Timothy to go with him? Why did Paul have Timothy circumcised? What was the outcome of Timothy going on a missionary journey with Paul?

### **Read 2 Timothy 1:1-6**

4. Why would Paul refer to Timothy as his son in verse 2? Why is this "father/son" relationship important to (a) Paul? and (b) Timothy?
5. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: "As a believer, I have a duty to mentor a younger believer. This means that I must spend time with that person and help them to grow in their faith in the Lord." If you agree with this statement, do you practice this? If you don't agree with this statement, why?

6. What significant role did Lois and Eunice play in Timothy's life? Does every Christian adult have a biblical obligation to God, to Christ, and to the church to teach and disciple the children within their family?
7. Is it your conviction that children and their parents should attend church on a regular weekly basis barring special circumstances? Were you raised going to church on a regular basis? What role did that habit play in your life?
8. If you were not raised in the church, how did that affect your life? Do you think it would have made a difference in your life if you were raised in the church?
9. Please discuss the role that each of the following persons should have in the raising of a child in a Christian home: mother, father, siblings, and grandparents. Is there one role that is more important than the other? Who made the biggest impact in your life as a Christian?
10. In today's society, there is great pressure on families to have their children involved in several activities on Sunday and throughout the week. Do you see this as a problem?
11. Which activities have the top priorities in your household? Does your activities calendar confirm the accuracy of your answer? Do most of your activities involve doing primarily the same things as a non-Christian is doing? Or, do most of your activities involve Jesus and His church?
12. How do you respond when you hear the statement: "I want my child to have more than I did growing up?" What does that mean to you? Is this healthy thinking? Does this benefit (a) our children? (b) our culture? (c) our families? (d) our commitment to Christ and his church?

**Consider:** Step back and take a meaningful look at yourself and your family. Are your priorities reflecting a commitment to Jesus or a commitment to the values of our culture? As a believer, everything that we say and do should glorify and honor our Lord. What changes must you make to enable your family (especially your children) to see that your first priority in life is your relationship with Christ?