

Sermon Discussion

14 March 2021

Read 2 Timothy 1:3-5; 3:14-17; Deuteronomy 6:4-9.

Dig Deeper

Paul's reference to his **ancestors** in verse 3 may seem unusual. However, throughout this letter Paul looked backward into the past and ahead into the future. This most likely reveals that Paul regarded his own ministry as part of the continuation of God's great ongoing plan of the ages. He was a part of receiving and passing on a Godly legacy.

Paul also rejoiced over Timothy's genuine faith. Timothy's faith was sincere which means **unmixed with distrust and unbelief**. Undoubtedly, his grandmother and mother were instrumental in Timothy's salvation. Spiritual as well as physical traits often come down from one generation to the next.

According to the Mishnah (*the first written version of the Oral Law*), Jewish parents were expected to teach their children the Law from the age of five onwards. Timothy not only had this foundation, but his convictions grew stronger because Paul's life had backed up the truth. This Godly relationship was consistent with the sacred Scriptures that he had known all his life.

1. What are some of the obstacles that make developing a genuine faith difficult? How would your children (or other members of your family) describe your spiritual maturity?
2. What kind of spiritual inheritance did your parents leave you?
3. What kind of spiritual inheritance will you leave for your children and their children? One of faith in God, or one of cynicism and despair?
4. How can a Christian parent with an unbelieving spouse teach the children to love their mom/dad but not to follow their ways?

Application & Prayer

- Pray that your (or those close to you) children and grandchildren will be made "wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus."
- How will you make Scripture a natural part of your everyday life so that it naturally becomes a part of your family's life? Make a plan to read your Bible over the next 7 days.
- Meditate of this verse: "*All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*" -2 Timothy 3:16-17