1 TIMOTHY | GUARDING THE GOSPEL

Sunday School • Greg Brooks • Lesson 1: 1 Timothy 1:1–11 (KJV)

Central truth: Faithful ministry preserves sound doctrine and promotes love, godliness, and confidence in the gospel.

Introduction: Paul and Timothy

Paul wrote to Timothy, his son in the faith and fellow minister. Timothy remained at Ephesus to strengthen the church and guard its teaching. (Acts 16:3; 1 Timothy 1:1–3)

I. The Opening Charge — 1:1–4

Paul writes by the commandment of God our Saviour and the Lord Jesus Christ, our hope. He greets Timothy with grace, mercy, and peace, then charges him to oppose other doctrine, fables, and endless genealogies.

II. The Aim of the Commandment — 1:5–7

The goal is charity out of a pure heart, a good conscience, and faith unfeigned. Empty arguments and the desire to teach without understanding lead away from that goal.

III. The Lawful Use of the Law — 1:8–10

The law is good when used lawfully. It exposes and restrains conduct contrary to righteousness and sound doctrine; it must not become an instrument of self-justification or division.

IV. The Glorious Gospel — 1:11

The glorious gospel of the blessed God was committed to Paul’s trust. Gospel ministry is a sacred stewardship requiring faithfulness to God’s message.

Putting the Word into Practice

Application: Guard sound doctrine, avoid fruitless disputes, cultivate sincere love, and faithfully proclaim the gospel.

Key verses: 1 Timothy 1:5, 8, 11