

Overseers and Deacons - 1 Timothy 3:1-16

Topics:

Abilities, Accountability, Administration, Ambition, Anger, Authority, Character, Children, Church, Drinking, Effectiveness, Ego, Family, Gentleness, Greed, Home, Hospitality, Impulsiveness, Initiative, Integrity, Leadership, Management, Marriage, Maturity, Money, Morality, Pastors, People, Power, Pride, Quarrels, Reputation, Respect, Responsibility, Teaching

Open It Questions

A. What were some of the qualifications you had to meet for your job?

B. What important qualities should managers possess?

Explore It Questions

1. What did Paul say about the person who wants to be an overseer or church leader? (3:1)

2. What qualities must an overseer possess? (3:2-7)

3. Why is good family management a qualification for being an overseer? (3:4-5)

4. Why shouldn't the overseer be a new convert? (3:6)

5. Why must an overseer have a good reputation? (3:7)

6. What qualities must a deacon possess? (3:8-10, 12)

7. What sort of person must the wife of a deacon be? (3:11)

8. What do those who serve well as deacons gain? (3:13)

9. Why did Paul write these instructions? (3:14-15)

10. What is said about Jesus in the hymn Paul quoted? (3:16)

Get It Questions

11. What role do you desire in your church?

12. To what noble tasks have you aspired?

13. Which of the character qualities needed by both overseers and deacons do you think is the most important for a church leader to possess?

14. If you applied the lists of qualifications for these positions to yourself, how would you measure up?

15. What is the common ingredient in the lists of qualifications for leaders in the church?

16. What hymn or praise chorus that you know centers on the person and work of Jesus Christ?

Apply It Questions

17. What quality from the lists in 1 Timothy 3 do you want to improve in your life? How could you start?

18. In what way can you serve in your church?

19. What hymn or song could you include in your devotions this week?

Adult Questions for LESSONMaker.

New Hope Missionary Baptist
Church of Southfield, Michigan

Welcome to Bible Study!

1 Timothy 3:1-16

“Instructions for Overseers and Deacons”

Bible Study Facilitators

Rev. Rodney Kemp

Rev. Valerie Crump

Rev. Jacqueline Albert

Dean Donna Wilson

Minister-in-Training, Alicia Martin

Sis. Robbin Cooper, Superintendent

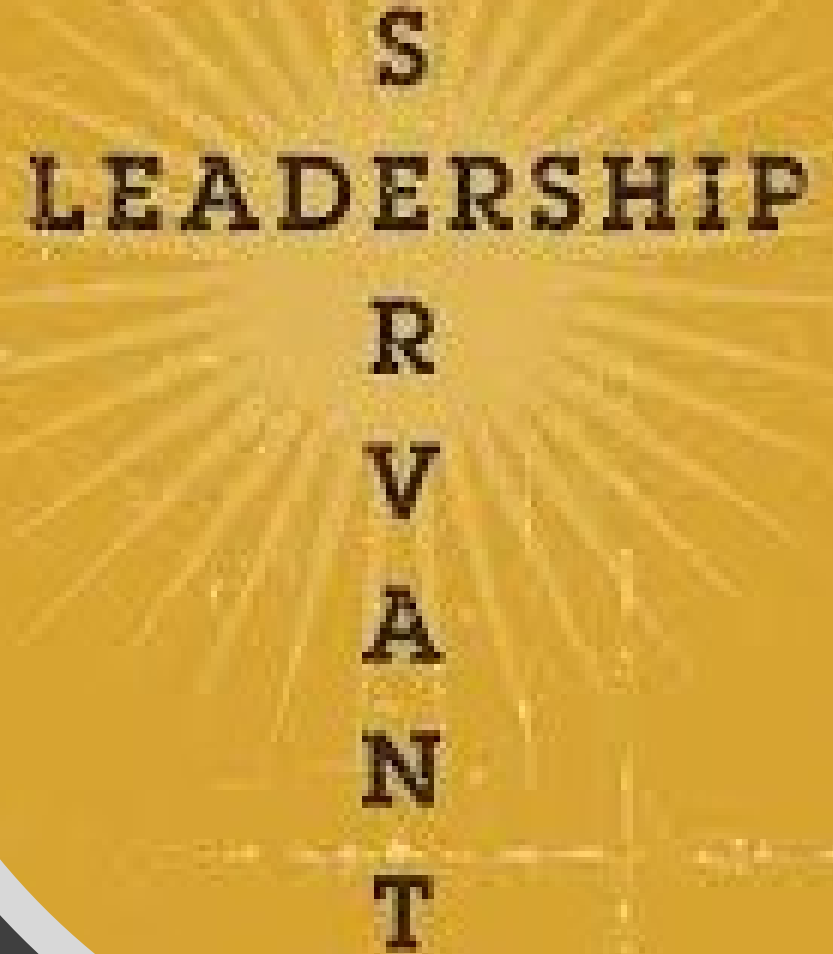
Sis. Jacqueline Bray, Adult Teacher

Bro. Jonathan Clark, Adult Teacher

Sister Vineta Mitchell, Adult Teacher

Sister Gloria Vinson, Adult Teacher

Bro. Kendall Taylor, Youth Teacher



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SERVANT
LEADERSHIP

PRAYER



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PSALMS 41-44
waves and thy billows
me.
For the Lord will
mercifulness in the
the sight his soul
me, and my prayer
my life.
I will say unto
Why boast thou for
go I mourning be-
pression of the con-
19 As with a sw
mine enemies re-
they say daily un-
God?
11 Why art thou
soul? and why
within me? hope
shall yet praise
health of my t
God.
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JUDGE me,
I cause again
deliver me
unjust man
2 For the
strength: w
off? why s
the oppres
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truth: let
being me
thy labo
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God, un
yes, upc
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5 Why
soul? an
within
yet pra
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PSALMS 44, 45
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18 Our heart is not turned back,
neither have our steps declined from
thy way.
19 Though thou hast sore broken
me in the place of dragons, and cov-
ered us with the shadow of death,
20 If we have forgotten the name
of our God, or stretched out our
hands to a strange god:
21 Shall not God search this out?
for he knoweth the secrets of the
heart.
22 Yea, for thy sake are we killed
all the day long; we are counted as
sheep for the slaughter.
23 Awake, why sleepest thou, O
Lord? arise, cast us not off for ever.
24 Wherefore hidest thou thy
face, and forgettest our affliction
and our oppression?
25 For our soul is bowed down to
the dust; our belly cleaveth unto the
earth.
26 Arise for our help, and redeem
us for thy mercies' sake.
PSALM 45
To the chief Musician upon
Shoshannim, for the sons of Korah,
Maschil, A Song of loves
MY heart is inditing a good mat-
ter; I speak of the things which I
have made touching the king; my
tongue is the pen of a ready writer.
2 Thou art fairer than the children
of men; grace is poured into thy lips;
therefore God hath blessed thee for
ever.
3 Gird thy sword upon thy thigh,
O most mighty, with thy glory and
thy majesty.
4 And in thy majesty ride prosper-
ously because of truth and meek-
ness and righteousness; and thy
right hand shall teach thee terrible
things.
5 Thine arrows are sharp in the
heart of the king's enemies;
whereby the people fall under thee.
6 Thy throne, O God, is for ever
and ever: the sceptre of thy king-
dom is a right sceptre.
7 Thou lovest righteousness, and
hatest wickedness: therefore God,

Servant
Leaders

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

TOPICS

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

TOPICS

- Abilities
- Accountabilities
- Administration
- Ambition
- Anger
- Authority
- Character
- Children
- Church
- Drinking
- Effectiveness
- Ego
- Family
- Gentleness
- Greed
- Home
- Hospitality
- Impulsiveness
- Initiative
- Integrity
- Leadership
- Management
- Marriage
- Maturity
- Money
- Morality
- Pastors
- People
- Power
- Pride
- Quarrels
- Reputation
- Responsibility
- Teaching

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

OPEN IT QUESTIONS

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

**OPEN IT
QUESTIONS**

- A. What were some of the qualifications you had to meet for your job?

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

**OPEN IT
QUESTIONS**

B. What important qualities should managers possess?

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

INTRODUCTION

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

INTRODUCTION

The list of qualifications for church officers, which is similar to other lists in the Jewish and Greco-Roman world, is not a rigid judgment list for disqualifying certain people. Rather, it serves as a barometer for spiritual maturity.

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

INTRODUCTION

Those who aspire to a church office must realize that living a blameless and pure life requires effort and self-discipline.

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

INTRODUCTION

All believers, even if they never plan to be church leaders, should strive to follow these guidelines because they are consistent with what God says is true and right. The strength to live according to God's will comes from Christ.

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

SCRIPTURE
(1 Timothy 3:1-13 NLT)

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

SCRIPTURE
(1 Timothy
3:1-13 NLT)

¹This is a trustworthy saying: “If someone aspires to be a church leader, he desires an honorable position.”

² So a church leader must be a man whose life is above reproach. He must be faithful to his wife. He must exercise self-control, live wisely, and have a good reputation. He must enjoy having guests in his home, and he must be able to teach.

³ He must not be a heavy drinker or be violent. He must be gentle, not quarrelsome, and not love money.

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

SCRIPTURE
(1 Timothy
3:1-13 NLT)

⁴ He must manage his own family well, having children who respect and obey him.

⁵ For if a man cannot manage his own household, how can he take care of God's church?

⁶ A church leader must not be a new believer, because he might become proud, and the devil would cause him to fall.

⁷ Also, people outside the church must speak well of him so that he will not be disgraced and fall into the devil's trap.

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Leaders

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

SCRIPTURE
(1 Timothy
3:1-13 NLT)

⁸ In the same way, deacons must be well respected and have integrity. They must not be heavy drinkers or dishonest with money.

⁹ They must be committed to the mystery of the faith now revealed and must live with a clear conscience.

¹⁰ Before they are appointed as deacons, let them be closely examined. If they pass the test, then let them serve as deacons.

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

SCRIPTURE
(1 Timothy
3:1-13 NLT)

¹¹ In the same way, their wives must be respected and must not slander others. They must exercise self-control and be faithful in everything they do.

¹² A deacon must be faithful to his wife, and he must manage his children and household well.

¹³ Those who do well as deacons will be rewarded with respect from others and will have increased confidence in their faith in Christ Jesus.

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

EXPLORE IT QUESTIONS

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

1. What did Paul say about the person who wants to be an overseer or church leader? ([3:1](#))

EXPLORE IT QUESTIONS

*Elder, Overseer, Bishop,
Presbyter, Pastor

¹This is a trustworthy saying: “If someone aspires to be a [*church leader*],* he desires an honorable position (NLT).”

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

2. **What qualities must an overseer possess? ([3:2-7](#))**

EXPLORE IT QUESTIONS

So a church leader must be a man whose life is above reproach. He must be faithful to his wife. He must exercise self-control, live wisely, and have a good reputation. He must enjoy having guests in his home, and he must be able to teach (**3:2 NLT**).

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

He must not be a heavy drinker or be violent. He must be gentle, not quarrelsome, and not love money (3:3 NLT).

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

He must manage his own family well, having children who respect and obey him (**3:4 NLT**).

For if a man cannot manage his own household, how can he take care of God's church (**3:5 NLT**)?

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

A church leader must not be a new believer, because he might become proud, and the devil would cause him to fall (**3:6 NLT**).

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

Also, people outside the church must speak well of him so that he will not be disgraced and fall into the devil's trap (3:7 NLT).

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

3. **Why is good family management a qualification for being an overseer?**
[\(3:4-5\)](#)

EXPLORE IT QUESTIONS

⁴He must manage his own family well, having children who respect and obey him.

⁵For if a man cannot manage his own household, how can he take care of God's church?

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

4. Why shouldn't the overseer be a new convert? ([3:6](#))

EXPLORE IT QUESTIONS

⁶ A church leader must not be a new believer, because he might become proud, and the devil would cause him to fall.

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

5. **Why must an overseer have a good reputation? ([3:7](#))**

EXPLORE IT QUESTIONS

⁷ Also, people outside the church must speak well of him so that he will not be disgraced and fall into the devil's trap.

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

6. What qualities must a deacon possess? ([3:8-10](#), [12](#))

⁸ In the same way, deacons must be well respected and have integrity. They must not be heavy drinkers or dishonest with money.

⁹ They must be committed to the mystery of the faith now revealed and must live with a clear conscience.

¹⁰ Before they are appointed as deacons, let them be closely examined. If they pass the test, then let them serve as deacons.

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

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1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS**

¹² A deacon must be faithful to his wife, and he must manage his children and household well.

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

7. What sort of person must the wife of a deacon be? ([3:11](#))

EXPLORE IT QUESTIONS

¹¹ In the same way, their wives must be respected and must not slander others. They must exercise self-control and be faithful in everything they do.

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

8. What do those who serve well as deacons gain? ([3:13](#))

EXPLORE IT QUESTIONS

¹³ Those who do well as deacons will be rewarded with respect from others and will have increased confidence in their faith in Christ Jesus.

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Leaders

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

SCRIPTURE
(1 Timothy 3:14-16 NLT)

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Leaders

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

SCRIPTURE
(1 Timothy
3:14-16 NLT)

¹⁴ I am writing these things to you now, even though I hope to be with you soon,
¹⁵ so that if I am delayed, you will know how people must conduct themselves in the household of God. This is the church of the living God, which is the pillar and foundation of the truth.

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Leaders

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

SCRIPTURE
(1 Timothy
3:14-16 NLT)

¹⁶ Without question, this is the great mystery of our faith: Christ was revealed in a human body and vindicated by the Spirit. He was seen by angels and announced to the nations. He was believed in throughout the world and taken to heaven in glory.

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

9. Why did Paul write these instructions? ([3:14-15](#))

**EXPLORE IT
QUESTIONS
(continued)**

¹⁴ I am writing these things to you now, even though I hope to be with you soon,
¹⁵ so that if I am delayed, you will know how people must conduct themselves in the household of God. This is the church of the living God, which is the pillar and foundation of the truth.

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

10. What is said about Jesus in the hymn Paul quoted? ([3:16](#))

EXPLORE IT QUESTIONS

¹⁶ Without question, this is the great mystery of our faith:
Christ was revealed in a human body
and vindicated by the Spirit.
He was seen by angels
and announced to the nations.

Servant
Leaders

1 Timothy 3:1-16

Instructions for Overseers and Deacons

GET IT QUESTIONS

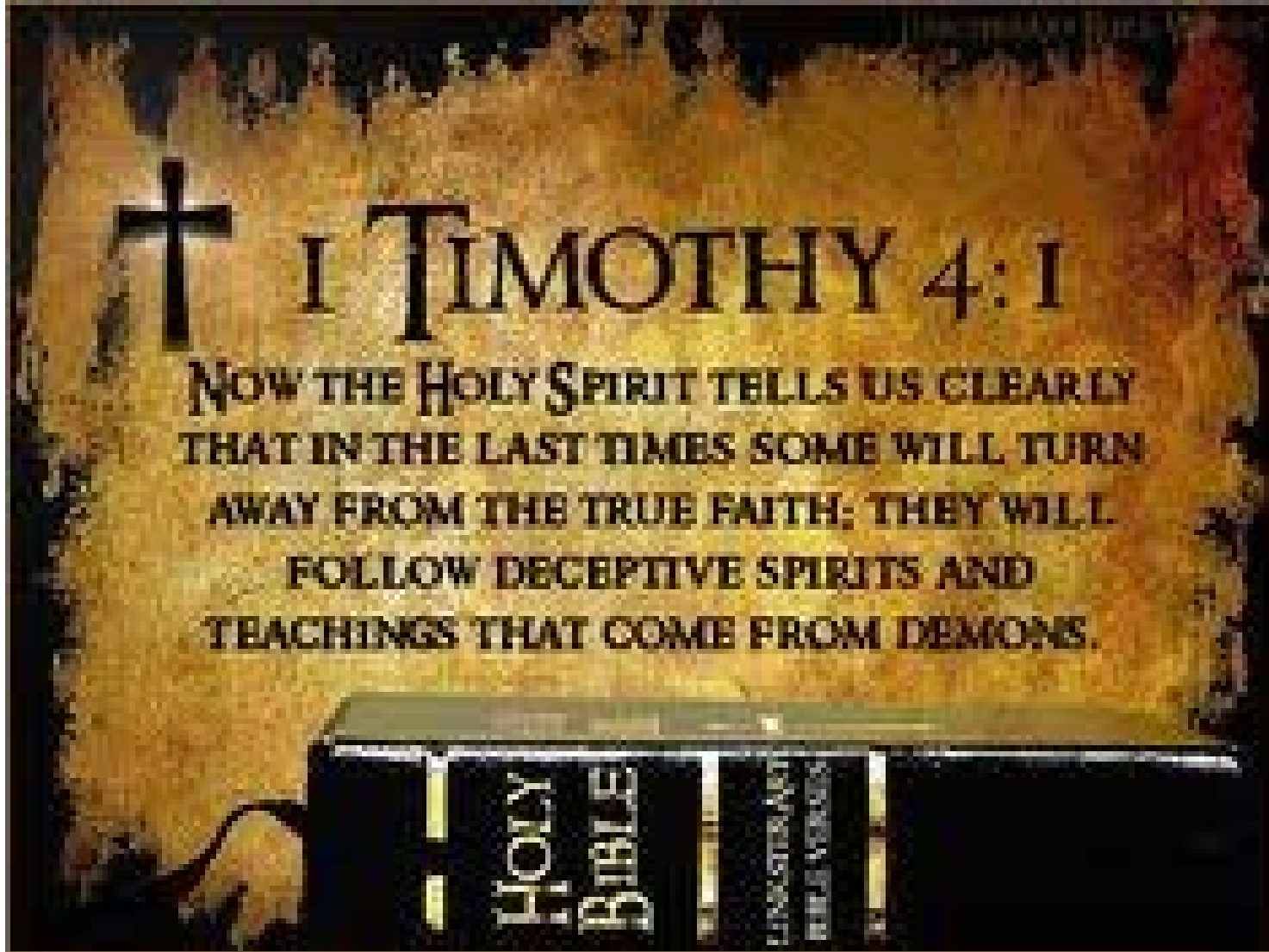
#11 - #16

APPLY IT QUESTIONS

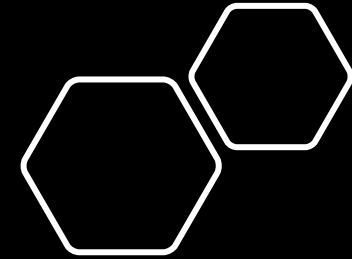
#17 - #19

(See Participant Handout)

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Southfield, Michigan



NEXT WEEK'S LESSON



1 Timothy 4:1-16

**“Instructions to
Timothy”**

PRAYER



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PSALMS 41-44
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PSALMS 44, 45
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PSALM 45
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Muschil, A Song of loves
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3 Gird thy sword upon thy thigh,
O most mighty, with thy glory and
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4 And in thy majesty ride prosper-
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5 Thine arrows are sharp in the
heart of the king's enemies;
whereby the people fall under thee.
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dom is a right sceptre.
7 Thou lovest righteousness, and
hatest wickedness: therefore God,