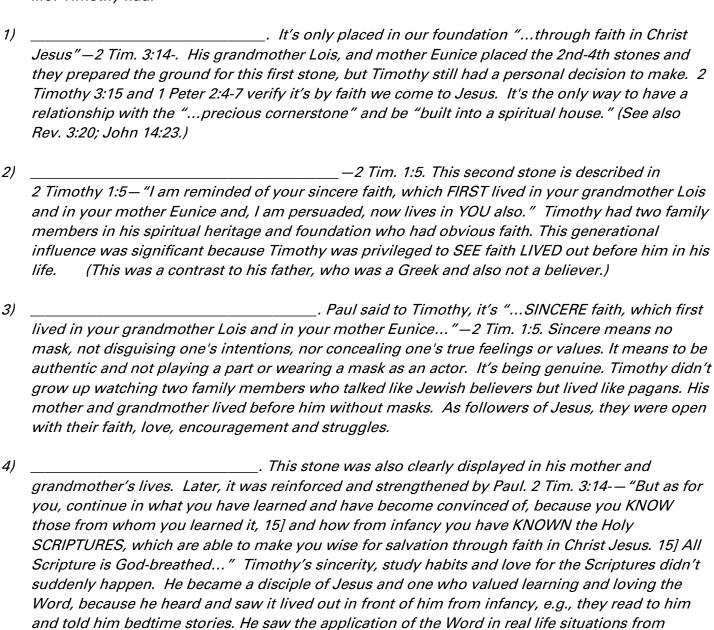


Walking in the Word The Essential Foundation Stones of Timothy's Life Dr. Bob Stone March 2, 2025

The Essential Foundation Stones of Timothy's Life 2 Timothy 2:1-2; 1:5; 3:14-17; Acts 16:2

Who or what will enable us to have the greatest return and joy in our spiritual journey? The Scripture sums up a possible answer in 2 Timothy 2:1-2. Why do you think Timothy received this instruction? Timothy was blessed to have at least five significant foundational "S" stones in his house that prepared him to receive great returns and joy. Who lived in his home? (2 Tim 1:5; Acts 16:1; John 14:23; 1 Pet. 2:4-5) Each of the 5 stones represents what we want those we influence/disciple/mentor to also have, so they can receive great returns and joy in their spiritual life! Timothy had:



infancy onward—2 Tim. 3:14-16. This is ultimate discipleship!

5)	Acts 16:2—"The believers at
	Lystra and Iconium spoke well of him." (See also 1 Tim. 4:14; 6:12.) This helped to override any
	negative influences around him—Acts 16:1b. They also gave spiritual insight regarding his gifts/
	ministry. It added even more stability to his life. Remember Acts 16:2 points out something very
	important to all mentors/influencers: WE ARE NOT ENOUGH! Every mentee or person we
	influence needs a team, a church of spiritual believers contributing to their spiritual foundation.
	These other older adults not only appreciated Timothy from a distance, Acts 16:2 reports they
	SPOKE UP and had good things to say about him. That must have been a massive encouragement
	to Timothy.

Caution: Beware of Counterfeit Stones — 2 Tim. 3:1-17; 4:1-5; 1 Tim. 4:1-2; Acts 17:11; 20:28-31, etc.

Application Phase 1—Matt. 7:24-27

- 1) Is Jesus your cornerstone? (Explain)
- 2) Can you restate the obvious reasons why Timothy's family members were so helpful to Timothy's future? What does sincerity look like in you or others?
- 3) As we review the spiritual heritage we've each received from our own families, would you say it was spiritually healthy and positive, or was it negative and hurtful? Or, was it a combination of both? How? If it was positive, can you give some examples of ways your immediate or extended family has continued to have influence in your life, ministry and mentoring (discipleship) of others?
- 4) Specifically, when you were growing up, how was the Word valued and practiced in your home?
- 5) If we are parents and/or mentors, how is our value of reading and applying the Bible being played out today in our homes and life? (See Deut. 6:4-9; 2 Tim. 2:15.)
- 6) What are some of the positive effects on individuals and/or churches when we value, honor and are mentored by those who are spiritually mature?
- 7) If you are influencing a person through mentoring, or as a parent, how will you teach them about Jesus and the basics of the faith/salvation?
- 8) More broadly, how are we replicating in OUR church the opportunity for people like Timothy, Titus, Mary, Martha, Aquila and Priscilla, Titus, etc., to have close relationships with mentors (mature/safe adults), so they can personally be encouraged in their calling and spiritual gifts? What are we already doing? What do we need to do in addition?
- 9) How will we equip FAMILIES to train/mentor/disciple their own children and youth? Are we/they preparing children and youth so that other godly leaders/ mentors will help them grow even further? Does Timothy's family and church give us some ideas? How?

Timothy had:

- 1) A Salvation Cornerstone, Jesus
- 2) A Spiritual Heritage/Formation Stone
- 3) A Sincere Faith Stone, Lois and Eunice
- 4) A Scripture Stone, it's God-breathed.
- 5) A Spoken Affirmation Stone, his Church and other Christians in the area