

Guidance for Young Leaders

1 Timothy

by Don Falkos

copyright 2018 Donald Falkos Storytelling LLC

Young leaders in the church faced a myriad of difficulties, not the least of which was the perception of immaturity. These young leaders needed guidance. They were told:

- Don't let anyone look down on you because you're young. Set an example for other believers in what you say, in the way you live, in love, in faith, and in purity. Throw yourself into your work so everyone will see your dedication.
- Avoid false teachers, and watch out especially for the Gnostic teachers. Their elaborate mythological stories and endless spiritual genealogies will pull you away from a life of faith into meaningless speculations around what they falsely call 'knowledge'.
- Live a peaceful life; pray for everyone; dress modestly; and let your attractiveness be defined by your good deeds. If you marry, marry only once, and remain devoted to your spouse and children. If you can't manage your own family, how can you take care of God's people?
- Don't be proud; don't drink too much – a little now and then is fine, just don't overdo it; treat everyone with respect; exercise self-control.
- Make sure older widows are looked after. Younger widows should be encouraged to remarry, lest they become lazy and start gossiping and meddling in other people's business.
- Always require two or three witnesses before taking action against anyone. Then do so firmly, in love, in front of the whole community.
- The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. Don't look for any wealth other than the riches of godliness and contentment.