

FOCUS
Integrity

TITLE
Role Models of Purity

REFERENCE
1 Timothy 1:9–11

• brown merit •

1 Timothy

... LESSON 2

• FOR THE LEADER

• PREP



FOR THE LEADER

WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT:

God's laws are a way to help us refrain from sinning. By practicing those laws, we can be a godly role model for how others should live.

THINK ABOUT IT:

- Why do we need the law if we have the grace?
- How can I stay pure?
- How can I live in a way consistent with the gospel?



PREP

- paper (one sheet per boy)
- pens (one per boy)

• Notes •

- We strongly recommend that this lesson be taught by an adult leader, not a junior leader.

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1 Timothy

... LESSON 2

· READ



· REFLECT



· RESPOND



READ

We also know that law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.
1 Timothy 1:9–11

Media often portrays men like animals that act on their impulses. Some TV shows are written around the idea of men pursuing women for no other reason than the goal of sexual affairs. Even ads, commercials, and billboards demonstrate an inappropriate view of this type of sexual behavior. But these kinds of actions are contrary to the laws of God; He calls Christian men to be role models for purity.

What changes do you think would occur if TV consistently showed videos of Jesus' life of sexual purity rather than the bad examples they do now? How do you think people would respond? How would you respond to it? Would His example encourage you?

Rather than being confronted with the truth of Jesus' perfect example, we watch TV and see athletes and other supposed role models displaying immoral behavior. It's behavior much like what

Paul described to Timothy in the passage above. Some of the best athletes in the history of the sports have been very poor role models for how to behave in relation to the opposite sex.

Some people try to excuse their behavior by saying things like, "I'm not a bad person because I don't kill people," or "I'm not bad because I would never hurt a child." Read the passage again and notice that liars and people who sin sexually are included in the same sentence.

Have you ever told someone something that wasn't entirely true? Have you ever had an impure thought? Impure thoughts often lead to impure actions. Jesus even taught that when we focus on impure thoughts we've done wrong in our heart. The point Jesus was making was not one of condemnation, but to help us overcome sexual sin by staying far away from it.

Another huge obstacle to overcome on the road to sexual purity and avoiding the behavior Paul describes in this passage is peer pressure. Young men often brag about how cool it is that they did inappropriate things with a young woman. Some young men even lie about things they haven't done with girls as an attempt to fit in. You don't have to act like everyone else; you can be part of a generation who changes these wrong sexual behaviors. You can be like Tim Tebow—an athlete who is not only known for being incredible at his sport, but also for standing up for doing what is right.

We have an even better example of purity in the life of Jesus. You should work hard to be the best at whatever you choose to do with your life. But, it is equally important to work hard to do your best at being pure, holy, and blameless before God.

You have the opportunity to be a role model for other young men. Rather than being another poor example in the world, you can be different and live as an example of purity with God's help.

PRAYER: Heavenly Father, I know I'm not perfect, but I want to be pure and holy for You and for the people I influence. I want others to see Your glory in my life. I am so thankful for Your Son Jesus and His example. From this day forward, I want to commit to being more and more like Jesus. In His name I pray, Amen.

Keep your list with you as a reminder of the commitment to purity that you've made. If you read or reflect on them frequently, it will help you in times of temptation or struggle.

You are never alone on your road to purity; Jesus has set an example for you and will help you follow it. Also, remember that you are part of a group of young men who are committed to the same goal of being a great role model just like you. They are there to support and encourage you along on your journey to purity.



RESPOND

Learn and say 1 Timothy 1:9–11 to your group leader or junior group leader.



REFLECT

As a group, share at least one way that you can be a positive role model. After each person has taken his turn, then talk about how each of you can help one another to fulfill that role.

Think of laws or principles that will help everyone stay committed to the group goal of living a pure life as a role model. Once you've agreed on a few laws that will be beneficial to everyone, take a few moments to write them down.

- 7-DAY BIBLE READING PLAN**
- Sunday ·
 - Monday ·
 - Tuesday ·
 - Wednesday ·
 - Thursday ·
 - Friday ·
 - Saturday ·

The *Fire Bible: Student Edition* provides a reading plan that follows a two-year design for reading the entire Bible. Follow that reading plan in order to earn the green Bible Reading merit.

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