



LUTHERAN CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

THE POWER OF THE FIRST TEACHER

Lois must have felt deep heartache when she learned her daughter would marry a Greek unbeliever. A devout woman of sincere faith, she had raised Eunice to know the Scriptures, to live them, and to pass them on. Perhaps Lois found comfort in an agreement that any future children would be taught the faith of their mother.

Eunice kept that promise. She taught young Timothy the Word throughout his childhood, even as her husband rejected her instruction and example. Yet joy broke through the sorrow each time Timothy recited his lessons or showed signs of genuine faith. Her labor was not in vain.

Imagine her emotions when Paul arrived and chose Timothy to join his missionary work. Paul praised the faith Timothy had learned at the feet of his mother and grandmother. Timothy's mixed heritage made him uniquely suited for ministry—familiar with the Gentile world, yet firmly grounded in Scripture and shaped by the steadfast witness of faithful women.

Such is the enduring power of parents and grandparents. Though unbelieving spouses, social media, teachers, or peers may try to pull children away, faithful families proclaim the one message that never fails: Jesus Christ is Lord, who gave His life to save us. The world's words fade; God's Word brings eternal life.

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