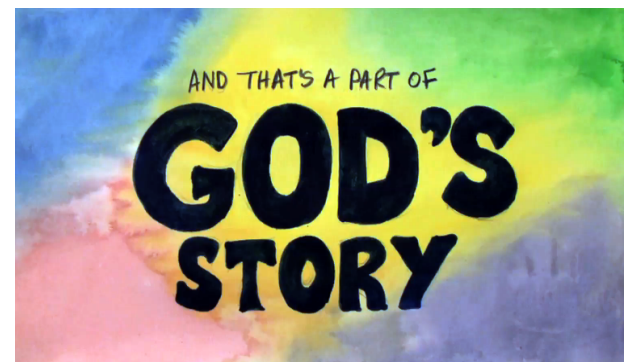
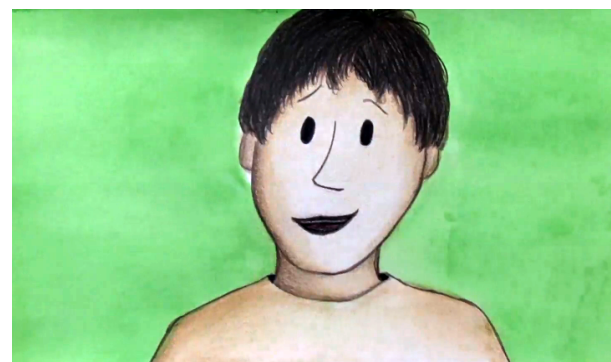
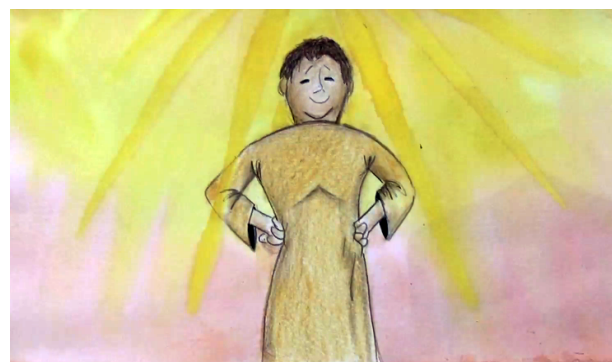
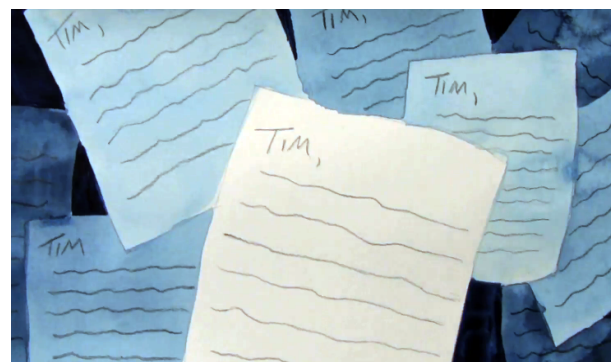
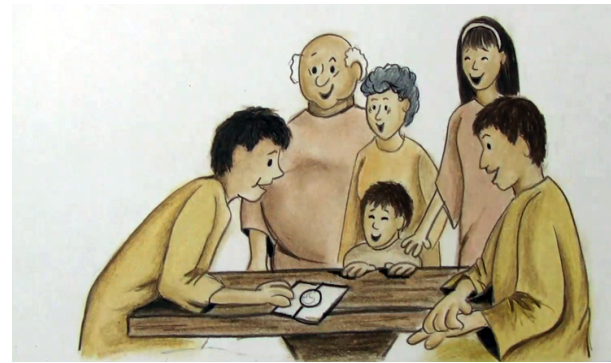
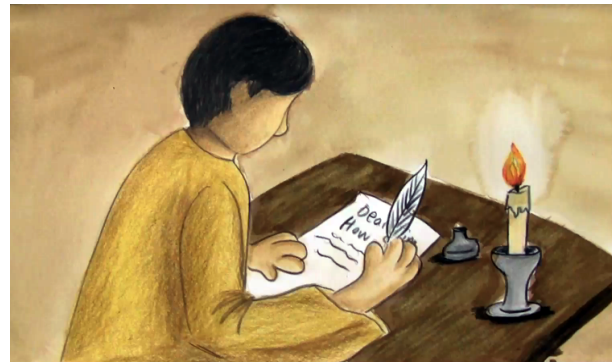
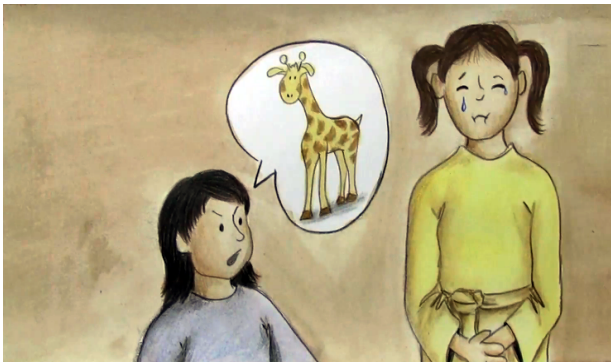
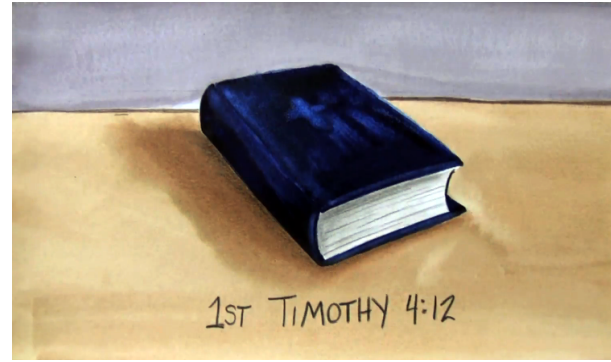
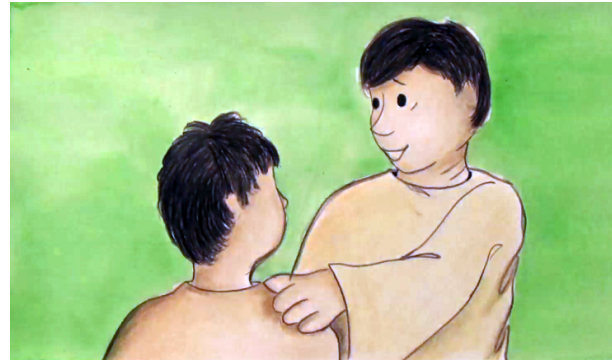
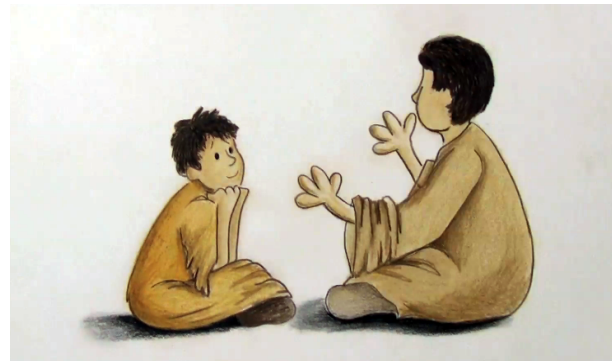
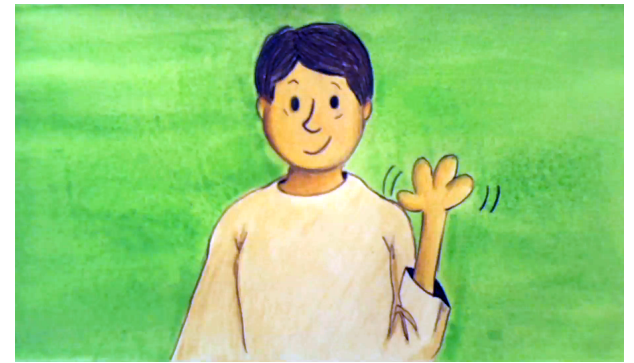


# GOD'S STORY

## TIMOTHY



**So part of God's story** is about a guy named Timothy and it begins like this.



A boy named Timothy was living in a town called Lystra with his grandma, Lois, and his mom, Eunice. These two women taught Tim about God. They also taught him to enjoy spending time with God, just like how you can enjoy spending time with your friends.



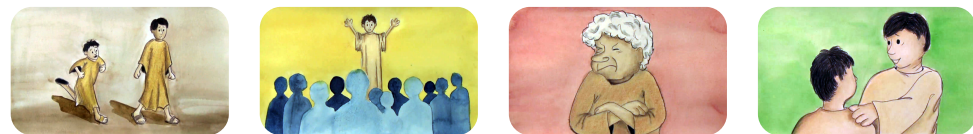
Tim knew a lot about God and had heard that God was going to send his son, Jesus, to rescue people from all the wrong things in the world. But since there weren't TVs or newspapers back then, Tim didn't know that Jesus was already here! One day, a man named Paul came to Tim's city and told the people that God had sent Jesus to the world and we can know him and follow him. Tim wanted Paul to teach him to follow Jesus. He also wanted to learn other things Paul knew, like how to pray for his friends, to know God better, and how to tell God's story.



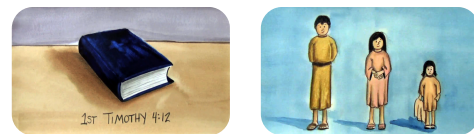
Kids, could you imagine loving to learn so much that you went to school ALL the time? You start following your teacher home on weekends. And going with your teacher on vacation. You even go to school in the summer.



That's kind of what Tim did. He followed Paul everywhere, so he could learn new stuff about God all the time. But they didn't stay in one city. They went on a journey to a lot of cities, like Corinth, Greece, Jerusalem, Rome, Athens, Phrygia, Galatia, Mysia, Troas, Neapolis, Philippi, Apollonia, Berea, Thessalonica...and back again.



Well, Tim spent a lot of time with Paul and learned so much from him. And the things he learned? He started telling other people. Some people thought Tim was too young to teach things to grown-ups. But Paul said to Tim, "Don't ever let people tell you that you're too young to tell them about God. You can show them how to act like Jesus."



Kids, those things he Paul taught are in the Bible. First Timothy 4:12. Check it out. Remember, Paul knew a lot about God and he was right: you're never too young to learn to act like Jesus.



Anyway, in Tim's day, a lot of people were doing some pretty not-nice things. Like some people tried to get their way ALL the time. Or called their friends names. Others even did things like burp at the table, RIGHT after their moms asked them not to. And they didn't even say, "excuse me." Tim showed them how to act like Jesus.



Tim and Paul couldn't be together all the time. But that was OK because Paul still wrote lots of letters to Tim, and Tim was able to keep learning. And even though Tim was still learning, he started to tell people about God. You don't need to know everything about God to tell other people about him. Just share what you know.



Now the problem for Tim was that sometimes he felt scared. He wasn't afraid of the usual stuff: spiders, dogs, darkness, heights, snakes, dentists, or germs.



Tim was scared to tell people about God, because he thought nobody wanted to listen to him. In his letters, Paul taught Tim that he didn't have to be scared of anything because God was with him...and you don't have to be scared, either. God's with you, too. Tim learned a lot of other things from Paul's letters, like how he should always tell the truth, how he should make friends with people who are lonely, and how he should not be worried about looking cool or getting a lot of awesome new stuff.



Learning about God was Tim's favorite thing to do, so that's what he kept doing his whole life.

And **THAT'S** a part of God's story.

Check out the video at [vimeo.com/kidsclub/godsstorytimothy](https://vimeo.com/kidsclub/godsstorytimothy)

### Family Challenge: Be the story

Read Matthew 14:22-34 out loud together. Then choose roles (Jesus, Peter and the disciples in the boat) and act it out. As a family, talk about what it feels like to play each of those roles.

Also discuss this question: Are you more like Peter (who had the faith to step out of the boat) or the other disciples that stayed in the boat?

### Why?

Stories about Jesus aren't religious fables—they're actual, historical accounts. Getting inside these stories can bring them to life for your kids (and maybe for you, as well).

*(Tip: If your kids are too old or too cool to act it out, assign everyone a character, and have them imagine themselves as that character while you read aloud.)*