Paul For Everyone: The Pastoral Letters: 1 And 2 Timothy, And Titus (The New Testament For Everyone)
Synopsis
Writing in an approachable and anecdotal style, Tom Wright helps us to see the pastoral nature of these letters. Paul is anxious to see that those who profess the faith should allow the gospel to transform the whole of their lives, right down to the deepest part of their personality, and is concerned that every teacher of the faith should know how to build up the community in mutual support, rather than tearing it apart through the wrong sort of teaching and behavior. Tom Wright has undertaken a tremendous task: to provide guides to all the books of the New Testament, and to include in them his own translation of the entire text. Each short passage is followed by a highly readable discussion, with background information, useful explanations and suggestions, and thoughts as to how the text can be relevant to our lives today. A glossary is included at the back of the book. The series is suitable for group study, personal study, or daily devotions.

Book Information
Series: The New Testament for Everyone
Paperback: 192 pages
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0664227945
Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.4 x 7.8 inches
Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars See all reviews (16 customer reviews)

Customer Reviews
For those unfamiliar with Wright's "______ for Everyone" series, they are a series of commentaries on the New Testament books by Bishop Wright based on his extensive historical scholarship. He provides his own translation (based on his study of the source languages) which is a very engaging paraphrase. The text is divided up into chronological topic-based segments, followed by a 2-3 page sermonette/commentary based on that section. This edition covers 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus, which
together form Paul's "pastor's manual" containing advice to two of his young proteges as they organize and administrate the churches in Ephesus (Timothy) and Crete (Titus). Paul gives a short, succinct overview of practical instruction for church organization - how to choose elders and deacons, how to administrate provision for those receiving aid from the church, how to teach and admonish the flock, and especially how to conduct themselves so as to keep the image of the church and its leadership above reproach in a society where it is the strange new cult in a Greek world of emperor-worship. Wright discusses how Paul's frequent emphases to Timothy about boldness and courage suggest that Timothy may have had a struggle with timidity. Paul encourages him to carry on as a soldier of Christ and take his share of suffering, using "savior" in a subversive way by appropriating a title normally used in that society to honor Caesar. The world's state reflects the final convulsive tantrums of hell, raging at Jesus' accomplished victory. Wright frequently ties together little tidbits of info, giving us background on the individuals and societies from other sections of the Bible.

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