

1 Timothy 3:14-16

I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, ¹⁵ if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth. ¹⁶ Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

He was manifested in the flesh,
vindicated by the Spirit,
seen by angels,
proclaimed among the nations,
believed on in the world,
taken up in glory.

July 21, 2024

Today's Order of Service:

- Corporate Reading: 1 Tim 3:14-16
- Doxology
- Catechism "Simple Theology" 14-19
- Speak O' LORD

Teaching: 1 Timothy 1:1-11 Building Spiritual Walls

- Communion
- Collection of Tithes and Offerings
- Grace upon Grace
- Jesus Strong and Kind
- The Solid Rock
- Now to Him

Upcoming Sermon Topics and Events: (also see website)

July 28 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 1:12-20

Aug 4 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 2:1-15

Aug 11 – The Necessary Thing: Luke 10:38-42

August 18 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 3:1-7

August 25 – Trellis & The Vine: 1 Timothy 3:8-13

THE WORKSHOP: Men's Bible Study. This is an ongoing study that meets the FIRST Sunday morning of every month at 7:30 a.m. Meeting location is at Robb Besosa's woodshop: 460 Salt Creek Road. Next Meeting: August 4 at 7:30am. We will be studying Psalm 51. See Kevin Salsbery for assignments and materials.

LIVE STREAMING: If you cannot attend in person, you can join us by clicking the button on our home page at **vineandbranch.family**

EMAIL LIST: If you attend regularly and want to be kept updated on church information and events by being included on the email list, provide your email to Ian Smith; iansmith@ianlabs.com. These are sent out 2-3 times a month and include prayer requests and announcement.

MISSIONARIES and MINISTRIES:

- **Rajan & Helen Nehemiah**
Agape Christian Mission – India
Agapemissionindia.org
- **John & Brittany Bagatya**
YWAM Hopeland Base, Uganda
Bagatya.wordpress.com
- **40 Days for Life:** 40daysforlife.com

Please check out <https://vineandbranch.family/> for a more detailed calendar, weekly sermon series and study passages, events and to access previous sermons.

Context:

Timothy was born of an illegitimate marriage, in a small rural village, and knew what it was to be an outsider. He was raised by faithful grandmother and mother who nurtured a sincere faith in him, and in whom God had placed a spirit, not of fear but of power and love and self-control. (2 Tim 1:5-7). Timothy becomes Paul's son in the faith, For years, and many miles of ministry, Timothy never leaves Paul's side. Eventually, Paul appoints Timothy to the church in Ephesus.

1 Timothy is a handbook of New Testament wall building & his first point of instruction is to protect, sound doctrine.

MAIN POINT: *Adhering to incorruptible truth, by sincere faith results in changed lives evident in our behavior and church unity. When we get distracted by what is false or wander from the goals of the faith, the result becomes apparent in our hearts, behavior, and community and detracts from the Glory of God.*

Timothy is immediately tasked with building walls of protection: Stop "certain men" from:

- **Teaching** certain *different doctrines* = "**instruct differently**"
- **Devoting** themselves to study of different doctrines.

This kind of teaching/study (v.4) "promote speculations" = further and further into things we can't know resulting in:

- Avoiding Responsibility (v.6)
- Self-promotion (v.7)
- Justification of sin (v.9-10)

We should spend no time on myths, endless genealogies, speculation, and vain discussions: **Conspiracy Theories, Pseudoscientific Claims, Universal spiritualism, Ancestry Obsession, End times speculation:**

Rather, we are charged with "**STEWARDSHIP** from God that is by faith = the responsible management and use of the incorruptible truth, our gifts, and resources which God has entrusted to us.

The goal of Christian instruction = **LOVE of God and Love of others**. Love is characterized by three key qualities (Application):

- 1. Cultivate a pure heart:**
 - **Seek God's transformation** (Ps. 51:10)
 - Guard your heart (Phil 4:8)
 - Confession your sin as soon as you see it (1 Jn 4:7,8)
- 2. Maintain a Good Conscience:**
 - Live with integrity (Prv 10:9)
 - Examine yourself and Seek counsel (2 Cor 13:5)
 - Make it right (Mt 5:23-25)
- 3. Nurture a Sincere Faith:**
 - **Study and Meditate on God's Word** (Ps 1)
 - Prayer & Worship (Ps 95:6-11)
 - Community and Fellowship (Heb 10:24-25)

Paul's instruction to Timothy is to aim his shepherding to align with the purposes of God: For the church, to *Adhere to incorruptible truth, by sincere faith resulting in changed lives evident in our behavior and unity. That we not get distracted by what is false or unknowable and wander from the goals of the faith. That our pure hearts, good conscience, and sincere faith be apparent in our behavior and community and result in the Glory of God.*