

Study Guide for 1 Timothy 1:3-7

Major Premise: Christ has given his chosen under-shepherds real authority in the church, empowering them to command what he commands. They must also remember his objective in giving them this authority.

Intro

1. How does the concept of 'red pilling' in the sermon relate to the church's role in revealing truth to the world? What are some ways we might be living in 'darkness' without realizing it?
2. The sermon discusses the church having 'edges' and 'parameters'. How do we balance maintaining the church's distinct identity while still being welcoming and reaching out to others?

Sermon Questions

- I. The Authority to Command (v. 3a)
 1. Paul tells Timothy to 'stick it out' in his ministry. When have you felt called to persevere in a difficult situation, and how did that experience shape your faith?
- II. The Reason for the Command (vv. 3b-4)
 1. How can we distinguish between helpful theological discussions and the 'vain speculations' that Paul warns against in his letter to Timothy?
 2. The sermon emphasizes that faith is not blind leaping or speculation, but trusting God's word. How can we cultivate this kind of faith in our daily lives?
 3. What does it mean practically to have a 'pure heart', 'good conscience', and 'sincere faith' as mentioned in 1 Timothy 1:5?

III. The Objective of the Command (vv. 5-7)

1. The pastor uses the analogy of a groomsman to describe the role of church leaders. How does this perspective challenge or affirm your view of spiritual leadership?
2. How can we as Christians be more discerning about 'myths' or unbiblical teachings that may be influencing our beliefs?
3. The sermon talks about the danger of the church becoming 'impotent' in the world. What are some ways the church can maintain its relevance and impact in society today?
4. How does the idea that we are 'prone to wander' from truth affect how we should approach our spiritual growth and Bible study?

Key Takeaways

1. Commit to reading and studying Scripture regularly to ground your beliefs in God's word.
2. When you encounter a new teaching or idea, practice looking for biblical support before accepting it.
3. Reflect on areas where you might be prone to "wander" from the truth. Share with a trusted friend or accountability partner.
4. Consider how you can support and encourage your church leaders in their role of teaching sound doctrine.
5. This week, focus on cultivating love for God that comes from a pure heart, good conscience, and sincere faith. Journal about your experiences.