



Reach Our Community

Series: *The Main Things* 1 Timothy 3:14-15

January 7, 2018

Pastor Brian Erickson

We are 'God's household'

1 Timothy 3:14-15

Three things we want to commit to...

1. **Bible-based** preaching
2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Timothy 4:2-4

Three aspects of Bible-based preaching for 2 Timothy 3:16...

- 1) Teaching
 - 2) Rebuking and Correcting
 - 3) Training in righteousness
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2. **Christ-centered** worship
Matthew 15:8
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3. **Devoted** prayer
1 Thessalonians 5:17

Three challenges...

1. You are not **customers**, you are **servants**
2. You are not just **learners**, you are **followers**
3. You are not an **audience**, you are **worshippers**

Today's sermon can be heard online or downloaded at lakewoodfc.com. CD recordings can be ordered at the Signup Counter located on the wall across from the Welcome Desk.

Growth Group Questions

All references from New International Version (NIV)

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

MY STORY

1. Are you a member of Lakewood Church? If not, why not? Have you ever been a member of a church? If so, which one? What is the value of church membership?
2. What do you look forward to most about coming to church on Sundays?
A) Worshiping the Lord; B) Seeing people; C) Learning from the Bible; D) Other.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Brian started a new series entitled, *The Main Things*. We will be looking at God's Word as the 'GPS' for our individual lives and for our church. What do the following verses say about God's Word?

Psalm 119:105

¹⁰⁵Your Word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Romans 15:4

⁴For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

2 Timothy 3:16

¹⁶All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.

2 Peter 1:20-21

²⁰Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. ²¹For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

In this series, Brian said that we want to pull over to the side of the road, get out the GPS, and make sure we're going the right direction. What would you say is the 'main thing' when it comes to the church?

Gene Braun and Stephen R. Adams wrote a song entitled, *God Said It, I Believe It, That Settles It*. Does the title of that song sum up your view of God's Word? Why or why not?

2. In 1 Timothy 3:15, the Apostle Paul refers to the church as the ‘household of God’. When you join a church you become part of a family. Read these verses.

Matthew 12:49-50

⁴⁹ Pointing to his disciples, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers.

⁵⁰ For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”

John 1:12-13

¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.

Romans 12:10-13

¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³ Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

1 Timothy 5:1-2

¹ Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, ² older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity.

When you were growing up, did you ever fight with your brother or sister? What about now? If there is an issue between you and your brother or sister, what do you do about it? How does that apply to the church family?

Why are growth groups so important in a church of 800?

3. One of the distinctives Brian talked about that should mark our church is, ‘Christ-centered worship’. Brian said, “Worship is singing our love songs to Jesus and then going out and living our worship out of the overflow of our hearts. What do these verses say about living authentically?”

Psalms 78:36

³⁶ But then they would flatter him with their mouths, lying to him with their tongues.

Isaiah 29:13

¹³ The Lord says: “These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught.

Ezekiel 33:31

³¹ My people come to you, as they usually do, and sit before you to hear your words, but they do not put them into practice. Their mouths speak of love, but their hearts are greedy for unjust gain.

1 John 4:20

²⁰ Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.

In John 14:15 Jesus says, “If you love me, keep my commandments.” What would you call someone who sings their love songs to Jesus on Sunday, but doesn’t obey the Lord on Monday? What needs to happen in this situation?

Should a Christian ever feel guilty? If so, when? What do they need to do to get rid of the guilt?

4. Brian closed his sermon by talking about the ‘spirit’ we are to have when we come to church. We are not ‘consumers’ or ‘customers’, we are ‘servants’.

Matthew 6:24

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

Matthew 23:11

¹¹ The greatest among you will be your servant.

Galatians 5:13

¹³ You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.

Ephesians 5:21

²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Have you ever come to church with the wrong ‘spirit’? Explain.

Do you think people see you as a ‘servant of God’? Why or why not?

TAKING IT HOME

Based on this week’s sermon and homework, what is the most important thing for you to remember and why?