

Sound Doctrine: 1st Timothy, 2nd Timothy & Titus

A True Son

1st Timothy 1:1-2

Cover 3 letters, pace? Verse or two, chapter, revisit similar topics from different angles <u>Be prepared to be challenged</u> • In what we believe • In how we live it out To <u>endure</u> sound doctrine Hold up to, to sustain, to bear, to endure	What is <u>sound doctrine</u>? Teaching or instruction that is: • Sound, well, good health • Free from mixture of error (youth group brownie example) • Be strong (healthy) <i>We talk about false prophets and false teachers...</i>
Just because it's taught doesn't mean it's healthy - even in the "church" Some is downright evil and deceptive Will make you unhealthy, unfit, unholy	1. <u>Identify</u> sound doctrine 2. <u>Learn</u> sound doctrine 3. <u>Live by</u> sound doctrine 4. <u>Defend</u> sound doctrine
[Pray] How to Identify Sound Doctrine: #1 Holy Spirit's influence and discernment John 14:26 - "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you." How do you remember it? You read it first!	Acts 17:11 - These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so. • You need to know what the word of God says - <u>not what man teaches, but what God says!</u> • God will remind you of what it says • And when you hear or see a contradiction, you'll know why False prophets, false teachers, unbiblical movements would go no where, if Christians would know the Bible for themselves.

Hosea 4:6a My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Amos 8:11 - "Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord GOD, "That I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine of bread, Nor a thirst for water, But of hearing the words of the LORD. Beware of any "ministry" that doesn't teach out of the Bible and the "whole counsel" Acts 20:27	Teaching God's Word puts the control back in God's hands When we don't teach God's word, we teach our word (or worse) When we teach God's word, we learn to trust God When we teach our word, we want people to trust in us <i>Topical vs. expository, being lost in the word</i>
How to Identify Sound Doctrine #2 By the fruit 1. Does the teaching reveal the Jesus of the Bible? 2. What does the teaching produce in people? 3. Does the teaching produce disciples of Jesus? 4. Does it equip the saints for ministry? 5. Does it convince, rebuke, exhort, etc?	How to Identify Sound Doctrine #3 By the logic 1. Does it contradict or agree with scripture? 2. Does it contradict or agree with itself? 3. Does it contradict or agree with wisdom? 4. Does it compromise with the world or stand firm with heaven? 5. Does it hold up to the light of Jesus?
How to identify sound doctrine? #4 What part of you does it feed? Flesh or Spirit?	Does it make the church rejoice? Does it make the world angry? Religious folks hated Jesus Common people loved him Does it fill you up or leave you empty? Does it make you hungry for more Bible or more...Sunday sermons on movies...
Does it sound vain and puffed up? <i>NAR guy up the road</i>	Or is it humble and builds up? <i>Paul talking of heaven as if it wasn't him</i>

How to identify sound doctrine? #5 Who is giving it? Do they match spiritual qualifications outlined in scripture? Does their life have evidence and bear fruit of the teaching?	Do you see Jesus when you see them? (albeit imperfectly) What is their demeanor? <i>Muting the TV and watching their behavior and expressions</i> A good start I'm sure there's plenty more
:1 Who wrote these letters? Paul • Formerly Saul of Tarsus “desired”, OT King’s name, Paul=little • Pharisee, Gamaliel • Consented to Stephen’s death • Persecuted, arrested and worse • Came to Jesus on road to Damascus • Led to minister to Gentiles • Wrote most of the New Testament • Eventually die for his faith	Apostle • Delegate, messenger sent • True replacement for Judas (remember Matthias and dice) • Gift vs. office Of Jesus, the Messiah (savior) • God called him to do the work Acts 9 • No one takes unto himself Heb 5:4 • What a great calling, honor to serve God - <i>think about all we can do in life</i> • <i>Jesus true savior, not emperor</i> Our hope - all of Paul’s hope and all of his writings point us to put all of our hope, worship, trust in one person alone, Jesus
Three letters Called “Pastoral Epistles” From Paul to these pastors. & all pastors - not just <u>for</u> pastors Written to Timothy & Titus directly Vs. letters to churches But through them, <i>for</i> the church Official titles emphasize this	We’d be foolish to skip and say “just for pastors” <i>Pastors conferences, sr. pastors conferences</i> Filled with essential doctrine • On church leadership & organization • Christian focus in dark days Failing to read and practice what’s inside may be a big reason for the state of confusion in the church today

Timothy & Titus had ministered with Paul on his journeys and who were “left behind” to pastor churches

- Timothy in Ephesus (Turkey), false teaching had spread
- Titus in Crete “people called liars”,

Written:

- 1st Timothy either **AD 58-59 or 63-64, Macedonia North of Greece**
- Titus **AD 66-67** from Corinth
- 2nd Timothy **AD 67-68** before Paul’s exec.

Main Purpose?

- Ensure church taught soundly
- Lay out requirements for leadership
- Encourage to fight for faith & truth

Main work of a pastor

- **Teach** the Bible correctly *rightly divide*
- **Exhort** the body to live correctly based on those teachings
- **Prayerfully lead** the church
- **Equip the saints** for ministry themselves
- **Raise up others** for church leadership and planting

:2

Paul viewed these men as “sons in the faith”

- Timothy went with Paul on many journeys.
- Paul had Timothy circumcised as a young man
- being half gentile to not offend the Jews

Patmos discipleship was hard but they never circumcised anyone that I knew of

Timothy was dedicated to a life of serving God

maybe more than we’d be willing

Real discipleship requires real relationship

God ordains these.

We can have formal relationships but the ones that impact us the most God puts together.

Like family, we don’t always choose the relationship, we’re born-again into them.

We do choose to

- cultivate
- care
- actively pursue

Formal discipleship classes have some effect, but it’s not the same

Served as a son with a father • Old world, following in father's footsteps • Lost on us • Receive son, receive the father • Last names, son of, profession <i>I love doing ministry with my children Bringing them when I can</i> There's a difference in doing when your with family you love <i>Serving in NY under folks I loved and loved me</i>	Watching kenpo, sifu jordan teaching Jacob, their relationship I love it and that he has that But when it comes to spiritual things, I aim to be his main discipler <i>Years of youth ministry,</i> pouring into kids, having relationships with some very close and still maintained...some had parents who could disciple and we came along side, others we were it A parent's influence is the biggest predictor of their spiritual condition
Greek name - Timo Theo "honoring God" Timothy's mom and dad • From Lustra, Galatia • Jewish mom and grandma, where he Got his faith • Gentile dad, not in the picture Potentially why Timothy was timid <i>Lacking confidence from healthy relationship with father</i>	A mother's and women's roles in boys lives is essential <u>But a boy needs a father figure</u> For Timothy, this was Paul. A man he could look up to, trust, spiritually, and be guided practically by <i>Brush your teeth, kick the ball with me, read your Bible</i> 1 Cor 11:1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.
Timothy was deeply trusted by Paul Philippians 2:19-22 - But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your state. For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state. For all seek their own, not the things which are of	character, that as a son with his father he served with me in the gospel. Sad that Paul couldn't find anyone as like-minded about Jesus, the gospel, and others <u>but</u> Timothy <i>The relief of a trusted friend, coworker, ministry partner</i>

Christ Jesus. But you know his proven

We tend to think of Timothy as timid and weak

Esp. compared to Paul's boldness

But we should consider him as genuine and sincere as Paul

*Admiring boldness for boldness sake
Which, without love, is just pride*

Why do we flock to bold and brash preachers who don't sincerely care for us?

Instead seek genuine and sincere leaders

- Who hold sound doctrine
- More than teach us, feed us
- For our benefit, in love, correct us

Being bold and brave doesn't mean you're naturally either

It just means you push on when required to

**Being bold when the situation calls for it,
Not because you feel like it**

Titus

- Gentile
- Corinth, Greek man, culture, perhaps Jewish heritage
- *Helensists*
- "nurse"

Think of a nurse as maybe feminine, motherly role

But Titus was someone who would sincerely care for believers - like a nurse

That's how we know we can trust someone with the people and things we care about

*Pastor letting me babysit his kids
I'm the same way*

Galatians 2:3 didn't feel compelled to be circumcised

*Titus might be glad to not be Timothy!
Timothy might wish he could be Titus!*

The key for each of us is - to be genuinely sincere with the Lord and following His call for each of us.

How that plays out, who you minister to, what your ministry looks like will **not be identical to that of others.**

Although the same core remains

- **Genuine faith**
- **Sincere care**
- **Sound doctrine**

During Paul's 3rd Journey, Titus was Paul's man in Corinth

Later goes to Yugoslavia
(Illyria, Dalmatia) by the end of Paul's life

Brought 2nd Corinthian letter to them	
Sons with a common Father - Jesus The way to be a good dad? Be a good son to your heavenly father • Paul served his <u>F</u>ather • Timothy served his <u>F</u>ather • Titus served his <u>F</u>ather And God made them together, Spiritual family “Titus a brother”	Common sons with a common faith • Paul, Jew of Jews • Timothy, half greek half Jewish • Titus, potentially Greek raised, Jewish DNA This is what unites us as Christians, A common faith • One for commoners and rich • One for Jews and Gentiles • One for men and women • Past, present and future Faith in Common, but not commonplace faith <i>Those saved, and those saved</i> <i>“She gets it”</i>
Having the essentials in common • Sound doctrine of who Jesus is...and isn't • What faith requires...and doesn't	It's why we're not all the same faith • Not Muslims, Jews and Christians • Not Mormons, Jehovah's Witness • Not anyone who says Jesus is apart
<u>What their doctrine says reveals who their Father is</u>	It's why we need sound doctrine • We want to be sons of God • And family with His family
In that family is • Grace • Mercy • And peace From God, our father And Jesus, His only Son Through His Spirit living in you	This is what He wants for you This is what all sound doctrine points to: God is who He is Jesus is His Son, and he wants to be your Father

