

Westwood Baptist Church *Grounded. Growing. Going.*



Worship Guide for June 2, 2024

Sermon Notes

Godly Leaders Upholding the Truth

1 Timothy 3

1 Timothy is God's instruction manual for the conduct of the church, conduct that is rooted in the gospel. The true gospel always leads to godliness in the lives of those who believe the gospel and trust in Christ. How we live, how we pray, how we worship, how we serve, how we are led – all are tangible ways that the church lifts up and lives out the gospel for others to see, hear, and believe. In chapter three, Paul explains the required characteristics for the church's leaders. The church's health and spiritual growth depend in large part on the kind of leadership it is following. When biblically qualified men are leading and serving the church with character and skill, it is a great blessing for the unity, holiness, and vitality of the church. The local church lifts up the truth of God for others to see and defends it against adversaries when it is led by those who are biblically called and spiritually qualified.

The Church: The Pillar and Buttress of the Truth

The family of God and his called-out assembly

The promoter and protector of the gospel

The Elders: The Servant Leaders of the Church

Appointed to faithfully lead under the authority of Christ

Called to lovingly shepherd the flock of Christ

Responsible for accurately teaching the word of Christ

Responsible for consistently modeling the character of Christ

The Deacons: The Leading Servants of the Church

Exemplify Christ-like character as they serve the needs of the church

Demonstrate gospel-confidence as they assist the elders of the church

Guard and protect the essential unity of the church

The Applications: _____

Life Group Preparation Guide

"Let the *Word* of Christ *dwell* in you(all) *richly*
teaching and *admonishing* one another in all *wisdom*..."

- *Colossians 3:16a*

Focus #1: GOD

1. What does this passage reveal about the character or nature of God?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's eternal plans and purposes?
3. What does this passage reveal about how God interacts with his creation?

Focus #2: ME

4. How does this passage reveal sin in my own mind, heart, or life?
5. In what ways does this passage help us to see how we need to be aligned with God's will?
6. What is one tangible and measurable way that the Spirit is leading me to respond to his Word?

Focus #3: OTHERS

7. What is one truth that I can share meaningfully with someone, and with whom?
8. How can I specifically encourage someone or everyone in my Life Group from this passage?

Three contributions (reflections, questions, observations, etc.) I plan to include in our next Life Group discussion:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Westwood Staff

Gerald Hodges: Lead Pastor
Jonathan Taylor: Associate Pastor
Jason Engle: Pastor of Students
& Discipleship

Yvonne Hager: Executive Assistant

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JUNE

1-8 Utah Mission Trip
5 Life Together*
9 Churchwide Family Picnic*
15-22 Yvonne on Vacation :)
16 Family Dedication
19 Member's Meeting
23 Communion
30 Celebration for Gerald & Susan*