

Sermon study 1 Timothy 5:1-2 "Thicker Than Water"

Use this outline as a guide. You can talk about it a different way if you like but whatever you do make sure the depth of this study is depth of APPLICATION. Do not make it your goal to get sidetracked determining the meaning. The goal is to move forward from the message into actual real life and specific application. Be creative and follow up about application. Imagine a church where the people actually applied what they learned. Wow.

The problem this sermon addresses

Danger of power- The issue at hand is how to use sound doctrine for correction in the household of God.

Churches can be places of love and gospel-transformation. Unfortunately they can also be places where sinful people abuse the power of Scriptural authority to abuse one another.

Here is an example of a pastor who some feel abuse his flock with his position:

<http://davidjosephhorn.wordpress.com/2011/08/29/perry-noble-2011-sheep-beating-incident/>

Here is a brief chapter by some who feel the sheep abuse their pastor with their position:

<http://www.kentcrockett.com/Pastor%20Abusers%20Sample%20Chapter.pdf>

The point is that the Bible is a powerful book that can be abused by those claiming to hold sound doctrine.

Have you ever experienced someone abusing power? Discuss.

The Central Proposition of the text:

Timothy was to wield the authority of sound doctrine as a son and a brother.

Main Idea:

Sound doctrine is a family matter

I. Authority of Sound Doctrine

A. Paul has commanded Timothy, and he will command Titus, to be strong in their leadership with the Word of God.

1. Read 1 Timothy 4:11-16 and Titus 2:15.

a) Clearly a pastor is to lead with authority.

b) Based on these verses, what would be bad about a pastor who did not wield authority?

2. Read 1 Peter 5:1-3.

a) Peter, reminds us that one must use authority in a way that is not domineering.

b) What are some ways a leader might be domineering in his use of authority?

c) What are some ways you have been domineering with authority?

II. Family (1 Timothy 5:1-2)

A. Paul in general invokes the image of family as a model of how to use the authority of sound doctrine in the church.

1. Read Mark 3:31-35 and 10:29-30.

- a) Believers are designated now as a family. How serious should we take this?
- 2. Read Ephesians 2:18-19 and Galatians 6:10.
 - a) The church is called the household of God. What are some characteristics that distinguish a family from every other group?

III. Fathers (1 Timothy 5:1a)

- A. Paul exhorts Timothy to not rebuke (a unique word here in the original used only once and differentiated from the normal usage with the idea of inflicting blows upon) an older man but to treat him as a father.
 - 1. Read 2 Chronicles 9:29-10:19.
 - a) How does this illustrate disrespect for elders?
 - b) What were the consequences of this disrespect?
 - 2. Read Exodus 20:12 and 21:17.
 - a) How might one correct an older man in the church with sound doctrine? Give a few hypothetical examples.

IV. Brothers (1 Timothy 5:1b)

- A. Paul exhorts Timothy to not rebuke (a unique word here in the original used only once and differentiated from the normal usage with the idea of inflicting blows upon) a younger man but to treat him like a brother.
 - 1. Read Mark 9:30-41.
 - a) How does this illustrate insecurity?
 - 2. Read Romans 12:10.
 - a) What does brotherly love look like?
 - 3. Read 2 Thessalonians 3:13-15.
 - a) How might one correct a younger man in the church with sound doctrine? Give a few hypothetical examples.

V. Mothers (1 Timothy 5:2a)

- A. Paul exhorts Timothy to not rebuke (a unique word here in the original used only once and differentiated from the normal usage with the idea of inflicting blows upon) an older woman but to treat her like a mother.
 - 1. Read Luke 13:10-17.
 - a) How does this illustrate dishonor?
 - 2. Read John 19:25-27 and Romans 16:13.
 - a) How does this illustrate honor?
 - 3. Read Philippians 4:1-3.
 - a) How might one correct an older woman in the church with sound doctrine? Give a few examples.

VI. Sisters (1 Timothy 5:2b)

- A. Paul exhorts Timothy to not rebuke (a unique word here in the original used only once and differentiated from the normal usage with the idea of inflicting blows upon) a younger woman but to treat her like a sister with total purity.
 - 1. Read 2 Samuel 11:1-5.
 - a) How did David abuse his power for sexual immorality?
 - 2. Read Romans 16:1.
 - a) How might one correct a younger woman in the church with sound doctrine while avoiding sexual immorality? Give a few examples.

VII. Deflating Dignity

- A. Carefully read Galatians 6:1-3.
 - 1. What tempts us in our corrections?
 - 2. We are tempted to be self-righteous, to think we are something. Why is this dangerous?

B. Read Nehemiah 13:1-3. Notice they excluded all of Israel. They based this on a quote from Deuteronomy 23:3-5.

1. Read Deuteronomy 23:7-8. How does this illustrate falling to the temptation spoken of in Galatians 6:1-3?
2. Read Matthew 15:1-9. This is the temptation towards self righteousness in full bloom. This is what opposed and eventually crucified Christ.
3. Read John 3:1-10. Notice that Jesus is shutting the mouth of Nicodemus with the reminder that he could not do anything to cause himself to be saved but instead had to be born again.
 - a) What did you contribute to your birth?
 - b) Read 1 Corinthians 1:26.
 - (1) How does the family and birth imagery remind us to not think too highly of ourselves and become self righteous?
 - (2) How does this protect us from treating older men with disrespect?
 - (3) How does this protect us from treating younger men with insecurity?
 - (4) How does this protect us from treating older women with dishonor?
 - (5) How does this protect us from treating younger women with sexual immorality?

Implication:

Sound doctrine is not a license for disrespectful, insecure, dishonorable or immoral behavior.

Application:

Blood is thicker than water, especially this blood.

Remember that in the same way you did not cause yourself to be born physically, you did not cause yourself to be born spiritually.

Treat one another like family- even when it is hard, even when it is time for correction.

Discuss specific ways to apply this together.