

**A 3-D Approach to What We Believe:
 Doctrine, Discernment, & Discipline
 Truth —or— Consequences:
 When Truth Touches Itching Ears!**

—from 2 Timothy 4:1-8

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

—from the Evangelical Free Church Statement of Faith



Preach the word; be prepared and persistent whether it's convenient or inconvenient; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. For the time will come when they will not tolerate sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers who will match their own desires, and will turn their ears away from the truth and will turn aside to myths. —2 Timothy 4:2-4

—Analyzing Today's FOCUS:

We _____ believe that the Bible is God's _____ to us, _____ us _____! Therefore, we _____ that it _____ and we _____!

—An Additional Emphasis in Today's Study:

The _____ of God's Truth is a _____! _____ God's Truth is the only way to _____!

—The faithful pastor's role and responsibility is to relay God's message to people. He isn't free to simply present his own opinions, or make up his own stuff. He wasn't called by God to be a politician, a diplomat, or a spin doctor. His primary task is to proclaim God's Truth by the power of God's Spirit so the people can understand it.
 —an anonymous pastor who wants God to receive the glory

—“When the Bible is properly proclaimed, the teaching and truths revealed will both afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted.”
 —a quote attributed to many preachers & Bible teachers

—“If you preach the truth of God's Word, you will be criticized. I've received letters from people (often whom I didn't know personally) who would say, 'I resent your personal attack on me last Sunday. I don't like your preaching; and I don't think you had any right to expose me in the way you did. I don't know who has been talking to you about me.' And invariably they closed by saying, 'It's not true.' Pastors and church leaders should keep in mind that if you throw a stone into a pack of dogs and one of them yelps, you know who got hit!”
 —well known preacher/pastor Harry Ironside

—Reviewing & Recognizing the Context:

—Remembering Paul’s PROPHETIC WARNING ...

- _____ times will come in “the last days” ...
- _____ will increase
- Making it hard to _____ what’s true & what’s false

—Revealing the Content:

{1 Timothy 4:1-8}

- 1— The _____ of faithful pastors/teachers
- _____ God’s Truth!!!!

—PROCLAIM God’s Truth with **PASSION** _____

“Preach the word; **be** _____ ... whether it’s convenient or inconvenient;”

—PROCLAIM God’s Truth with _____

“Preach the word; **be prepared and persistent** ... reprove, rebuke, exhort, ... instruct ...

“reprove” =

“rebuke” =

“exhort” =

“instruct” =

—PROCLAIM God’s Truth with _____

“Preach the word; be prepared and persistent ... reprove, rebuke, exhort with great **patience** and instruction.

—2— The _____ because of our sin nature

—there will be a time when people will _____ sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers who will match their own desires, and will turn their ears away from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

For those who are faithful followers of the Lord ...

A-S-K

“What grabs my **A** _____ ?

“Is my focus on **S** _____ ?

“How well do I **K** _____ God’s Truth?”

—3— The _____ of faithful pastors/teachers in _____

“Be sober and self-controlled in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry!”

Four **TIMELESS TRUTHS** that the Church needs to recognize:

—1}

—2}

—3}

—4}