



Danger Ahead

August 30, 2026

Ice Breaker

What is one subject or skill you wish you had spent more time learning when you were younger, and why?

Key Verses

- 1 Timothy 3:15
- 1 Timothy 4:1
- 1 Timothy 4:7-8
- 1 Timothy 2:3-4
- 1 Timothy 2:5-6

Questions

- The sermon describes the local church as "the pillar and support of the truth." What do you think that phrase means practically for how a church should operate week to week?
- Paul warns that in later times some Christians will drift away from the faith by paying attention to false teaching. Have you ever seen this happen to someone you know? What do you think made them vulnerable to that drift?

- The sermon compares training in God's Word to the rigorous training of a professional athlete. What does that kind of spiritual discipline look like in your own daily life, and where do you feel you need to grow?
- False teachers are described as wolves in sheep's clothing who often appeal to feelings and personal experience rather than Scripture. How do you personally evaluate whether a teaching is truly from God's Word?
- The sermon mentions the danger of looking for spiritual truth online, through AI, or through popular culture. How do you navigate those sources while staying grounded in what Scripture actually teaches?
- Paul says that godliness holds promise for both the present life and the life to come. Can you share an example from your own life where following God's truth brought a real, practical benefit?
- The sermon emphasizes that confronting false teaching is a responsibility for the whole church, not just pastors and elders. How comfortable are you with that kind of confrontation, and what makes it difficult?
- The mystery of true godliness is described as humility and servanthood modeled after Jesus, who left heaven to serve us. In what area of your life do you feel God is calling you to greater humility or service right now?

Life Application

This week, choose one passage from 1 Timothy that was discussed in this sermon and read it slowly and carefully each day. As you read, ask yourself two questions: What is God actually saying here, and how does this truth change the way I think or act? Write down what you discover and bring it back to share with your group next time. Treat this like training, not just reading, and commit to the hard work of letting God's Word shape you from the inside out.

Key Takeaways

- The local church is God's family plan, designed to uphold His truth as a pillar and support for every generation.
- The Holy Spirit explicitly warns that false teaching will increase over time, and every believer is responsible for recognizing and confronting it by measuring all teaching against Scripture.

- True godliness and devotion to God are rooted in humility and servanthood, modeled perfectly by Jesus Christ, not in extra rules or spiritual experiences invented by false teachers.
- Training in God's Word requires the same kind of intentional, disciplined effort that a professional athlete puts into physical training, and the rewards extend into eternity.
- God desires all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth, and the local church is the primary place where that truth is taught, protected, and passed on to future generations.

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for being the truth. Thank You that You did not stay in the glory of heaven but came down, served us, and gave Yourself as a ransom for our sins. As we leave this discussion today, help us to hold tightly to Your Word and to one another. Give us courage to confront what is false, humility to keep learning, and gratitude for every good gift You have placed in our lives. May our devotion to You grow stronger this week, and may it bear fruit not only now but into eternity. We trust You as our Savior and our God. In Your name we pray, Amen.