

Truth Filled Godliness

1 Timothy 3:14-4:6

Mix - to combine (substances, elements, things, etc.) into one mass, collection, or assemblage, generally with a thorough blending of the constituents.

Mixology - the art or skill of mixing

Jesus - 100/100

Follower of Jesus, filled with the Holy Spirit -??

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 Don't you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, **20** for you were bought at a price. So glorify God with your body.

Romans 8:1-17

Titus 3:4-7 But when the kindness of God our Savior and his love for mankind appeared, **5** he saved us—not by works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy—through the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit. **6** He poured out his Spirit on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior **7** so that, having been justified by his grace, we may become heirs with the hope of eternal life.

If I am delayed...

vs. 15, How people ought to conduct themselves in God's household.

- a. The specific church gathering.
- b. The church as family.

The church is a family.

We are personally pursuing holiness (living lives of integrity) because we have been grafted into a collective whole (the body of Christ).

We have a personal and communal witness.

1:5 Now the goal of our instruction is love that comes from a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith.

When personal and communal are mixed together, the result is a really dynamic and whole church!

- The body and the temple.

Ephesians 3:8-12 This grace was given to me—the least of all the saints—to proclaim to the Gentiles the incalculable riches of Christ, **9** and to shed light for all about the administration of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things. **10** This is so that God's multi-faceted wisdom may now be made known through the church to the rulers and authorities in the heavens. **11** This is according to his eternal purpose accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. **12** In him we have boldness and confident access through faith in him.

God's multi-faceted wisdom may now be made known through the church...

Question: How are we / you displaying to the world the embodiment of God's truth? In what ways do you pursue holiness?

The *pillar* and *foundation* of the truth.

2:4 who wants everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

2:7 For this I was appointed a herald, an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), and a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

4:3 They forbid marriage and demand abstinence from foods that God created to be received with gratitude by those who believe and know the truth.

6:5 and constant disagreement among people whose minds are depraved and deprived of the truth, who imagine that godliness is a way to material gain.

Truth is a 2M core value

We strive to submit our lives to God's truth instead of personal agendas, religious rituals, or cultural trends. We look to the Bible to know the truth of God's redemptive relationship with humanity. We study Scripture and listen to the Holy Spirit to live wisely. We follow Jesus' example of love and sacrifice to live transformed lives and take God's truth out into our city.

John 14:6 Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

The rule and reign of God (Kingdom). Jesus reclaiming the world.

- A people who are gathered and being formed by Jesus because they recognize the truth of Jesus and are putting their lives under his rule and his reign.

To know truth is to be in a trusting, lived relationship with Jesus.

- In order to have and gain a voice in a world that is hostile to the gospel it must be Jesus' voice.

What at its very essence is godliness?

- Embracing a life of integrity and honesty -> we are not participating in deceit, spin, or manipulation.
- Lived, Jesus centered truth is directly linked to what heals, lifts up, delivers, renews, makes whole, and humbly serves.

Question: Are you becoming a truth-taster, truth-liver, truth-doer, and truth-teller because of the presence of the Holy Spirit?

Individual isolation

Or perhaps an even worse form, tribal isolation. We have cloned ourselves and called it community!

-or-

Communal clarity - through the 2M value of cultivate.

God wants us to pour our lives into the people around us, so we make time to sharpen each other, stir one another up to do good deeds, and to process ideas and turn them into actions. We learn God's Word and use it to humbly teach, respectfully rebuke and correct, and help one another learn how to live in a way that pleases God.

Paul's reason for writing 1 Timothy continued...

1 Timothy 3:14-16 I write these things to you, hoping to come to you soon. **15** But if I should be delayed, I have written so that you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth. **16** And most certainly, the mystery of godliness is great:

He was manifested in the flesh,
vindicated in the Spirit,
seen by angels,
preached among the nations,
believed on in the world,
taken up in glory.

1. Healthy & whole churches require healthy and whole leaders.
2. Living rooted in truth (sound doctrine). The church is the body of Christ and faith is expressed through demonstrating outwardly the renewal / transformation that has taken place inwardly (salvation, regeneration, justification)
3. Everything is built on Jesus. Paul quotes a liturgy. We see Jesus from incarnation to exaltation.

vs. 16, And most certainly (without any doubt),

The mystery of godliness is great:

- This mystery is a story
- A true story
- The story of the God who became human and rules the whole world as its rightful Lord.

This mystery changes your life!

This is what we confess...

1. We recognize the great work of God in the person of Jesus and the grace of Jesus to empower me/us into a gospel-transformed person/people.
2. We express our identity, in various forms, rooted in the good news of Jesus (from incarnation to ascension).

Question: Are we, as the church, a stabilizing force in our sphere of influence that helps God's truth to stand up and be seen in the world?

Are we as the household of God grounded in the experience of the revelation of Jesus?