

# WHY DOCTRINE MATTERS

Ephesians 4:11-16



*“The heart cannot love what the mind does not know.”* – **Jen Wilkin**



<sup>16</sup> Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.

**1 Timothy 4:16**

ESV



# 7 REASONS WHY DOCTRINE MATTERS:



# **#1. Doctrine Equips the Church for Ministry**

**(vv 11-12)**



*Apostles* (Established the Truth)  
*Prophets* (Boldly Declared the Truth)  
*Evangelist* (Advance the truth)  
*Shepherd* (Guide to Live Out the truth)  
*Teachers* (Explain the truth)



<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,  
<sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

**2 Timothy 3:16–17**

ESV



<sup>9</sup> He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

**Titus 1:9**

ESV



## **#2. Doctrine Shapes Our Worship (v 13)**



# **#3. Doctrine Produces Spiritual Maturity.**

## **(v 13)**



<sup>28</sup> Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

**Colossians 1:28**

ESV



<sup>12</sup> For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, <sup>13</sup> for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. <sup>14</sup> But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

**Hebrews 5:12–14**

ESV



<sup>18</sup> But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

**2 Peter 3:18**

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And I believe what I believe / Is what  
makes me what I am / I did not make  
it, no it is making me / It is the very  
truth of God and not / The invention  
of any man.

— *Rich Mullins* —



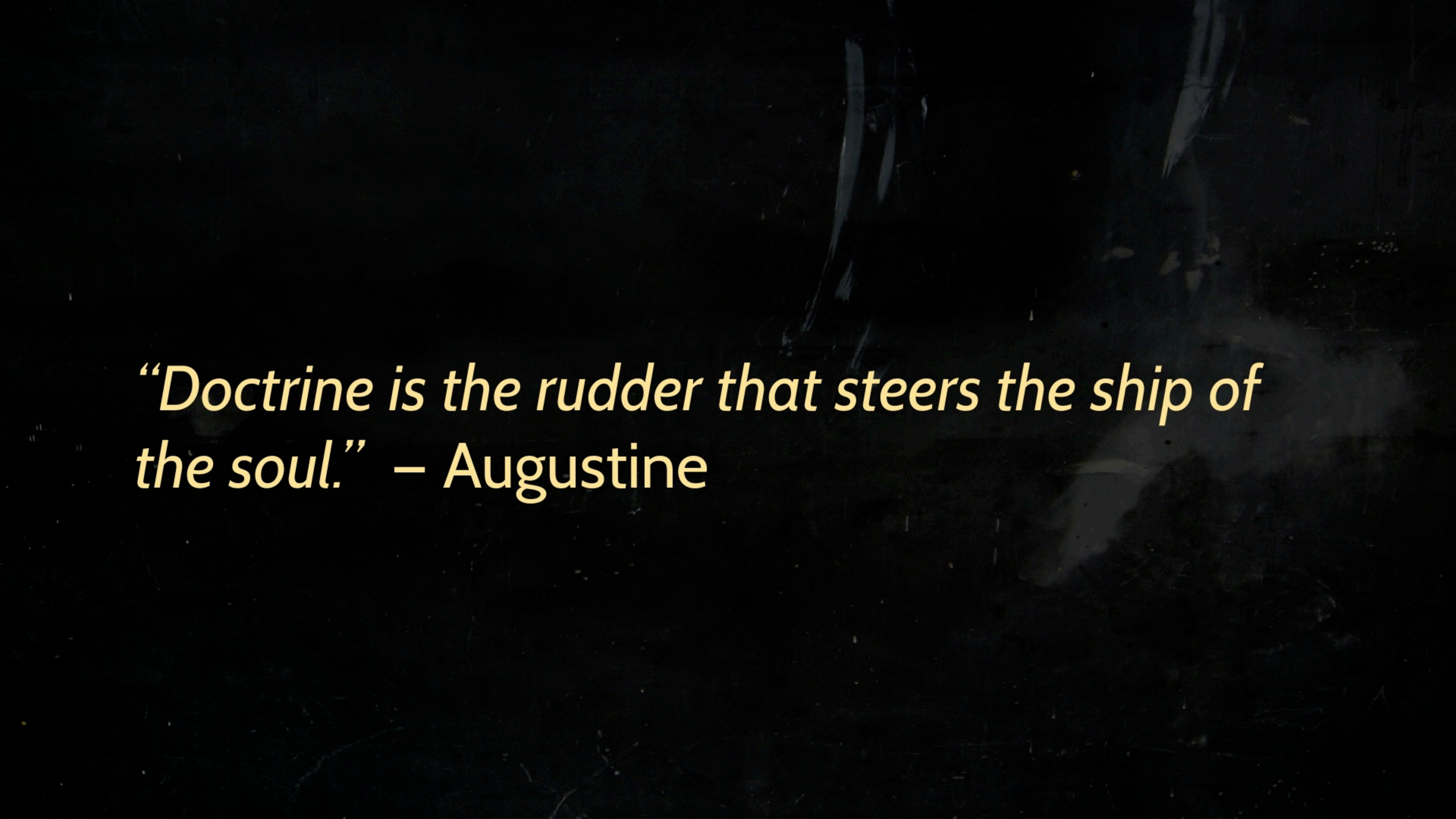
We cannot be spiritually mature  
and doctrinally anemic.



# **#4. Doctrine Protects & Anchors the Church**

## **(v 14)**





*“Doctrine is the rudder that steers the ship of the soul.” – Augustine*



<sup>6</sup> I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— <sup>7</sup> not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. <sup>8</sup> But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. <sup>9</sup> As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

**Galatians 1:6–9**

ESV



## **#5. Doctrine Unifies the Church (v 13)**



<sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

**Ephesians 4:4–6**

ESV



*“Doctrine is the framework of life—the skeleton of truth,  
by which the body of practical piety is knit together.” –  
Charles Spurgeon*



**#6. Doctrine (*should*) Fuel Love  
not Replace It (v 15)**



<sup>5</sup> The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

**1 Timothy 1:5**

ESV



**<sup>14</sup> And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.**

**Colossians 3:14**

ESV



**#7. Doctrine Glorifies Christ  
and Sustains the Church (v 15-16)**



DOCTRINE IS HOW CHRIST GROWS  
HIS CHURCH INTO HIS LIKENESS.