

as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." "Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive." "The venom of asps is under their lips." "Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness." "Their feet are swift to shed blood; in their paths are ruin and misery, and the way of peace they have not known." "There is no fear of God before their eyes." Romans 3:10–18 (ESV)



2 Timothy 4:3-4 – What Is A Faithful Pastor? – Part 2

May 23, 2021

2. A faithful pastor must be serious about his mission.

As for you, always be sober-minded,... 2 Timothy 4:5 (ESV)

Life Group Questions

1. Review your sermon notes and the above outline. What stood out in this message? What did you learn that you didn't know?
2. Pastor Kurt shared some ways churches and denominations have drifted from the Bible and accumulated teachers to suit their passions instead of focusing on the faithful preaching of the Word. What are other ways you have seen individuals, churches and denominations drift away from the Bible and adopt modern culture?
3. How is a church to balance faithful teaching of God's Word while staying relevant to a modern world?
4. How can we recognize a desire for religious entertainment in our lives instead of a desire for the healthy teaching of God's Word? In what ways have you found yourself pursuing religious entertainment instead of faithful teaching?
5. In v.4, Paul reminded us that those who turn away from listening to the truth of God's Word will wander into myths and pointless speculation. How have you seen this happen in the lives of others around you? What will help prevent that from happening in your life?
6. **Extra Credit:** According to Titus 1:14-16, does wandering into pointless myths lead to more or less freedom?

I am to pursue excellence, not success.

<https://thetobincompany.com/the-difference-between-success-and-excellence/>

- Success is attaining the cultural goal of wealth, power, prestige, and privilege.
- Excellence is the pursuit of quality in one's work, whether it is recognized or not.
- If you pursue success and try to move beyond your ability, you will only magnify your incompetence for everyone else to see.

Review from Part 1

A. A faithful pastor must understand the seriousness of his job.

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom:
2 Timothy 4:1 (ESV)

B. A faithful pastor must understand the content of his message.

...preach the word... 2 Timothy 4:2 (ESV)

C. A faithful pastor must understand the scope of his mission.

...be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. 2 Timothy 4:2 (ESV)

1. A faithful pastor understands the urgency of the time.

For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. 2 Timothy 4:3–4 (ESV)

- For the time is coming...

Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles... and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. Matthew 10:17–18, 22 (ESV)

- ... when people will not endure sound teaching...
- ...but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions...

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me." And he said, "Go, and say to this people: 'Keep on hearing, but do not understand; keep on seeing, but do not perceive.' Make the heart of this people dull, and their ears heavy, and blind their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed." Isaiah 6:8–10 (ESV)

"The United Methodist Church, as a community conceived as a corporate expression of Christ's love for us all, has declared its belief in the full equality of women and its desire to embrace women, and has historically decried institutional sexism in all forms..." — <https://www.umc.org/en/content/book-of-resolutions-every-barrier-down-toward-full-embrace-of-all-women-in-church-and-society>

I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. 1 Timothy 2:12–14 (ESV)

For more information on 1 Timothy 2:12-14 — <https://www.christ2culture.com/offsite/sermons/files/1timothy21115theroleofwomeninthechurch.php>

- ...they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions...

An appalling and horrible thing has happened in the land: the prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests rule at their direction; my people love to have it so, but what will you do when the end comes? Jeremiah 5:30–31 (ESV)

And they come to you as people come, and they sit before you as my people, and they hear what you say but they will not do it; for with lustful talk in their mouths they act; their heart is set on their gain. And behold, you are to them like one who sings lustful songs with a beautiful voice and plays well on an instrument, for they hear what you say, but they will not do it. Ezekiel 33:31–32 (ESV)

...and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. 2 Timothy 4:4 (ESV)