

Sermon Discussion Questions

1 Timothy 5:17-6:2

November 23, 2025

1. The Failure to Honor
2. A Picture of Honor
3. The Way to Honor

Discussion Questions:

1. As always, pray and read the passage together. What are your thoughts? Questions? Insights? Can you get a sense of what was going on in the Ephesian church from what Paul commands and warns?
2. What are your greatest temptations and failures when it comes to being in authority? Use it be liked? Gain control? Something else?
3. What are your greatest temptations and failures when it comes to being under authority? In any sphere. Resentment? Rebellion? Something else?
4. How do our failures in these regards give us a greater understanding and appreciation of Jesus' successes in these regards?
5. What's one way you can exercise authority or follow better because you trust Jesus?

1 Timothy 5:3-16

November 16, 2025

1. Care for the Uncared For
2. How to Care for the Uncared For
3. What we do to Care for the Uncared For

Discussion Questions:

1. As always, read the passage together, pray for God's help, and then note the main things you see in these verses. Ask these two questions: 1) what does it mean? and 2) how does it apply to my life?
2. In what sense are we in the same category as the widow? The Fatherless? The uncared for? How does that change things? Do you see yourself that way? How can you grow in your understanding of that?
3. What does mystery mean? What does the mystery of godliness mean in light of the entirety of 3:16?
4. What false beliefs, lies, desires keep you from caring for the uncared for? How does the gospel correct that?
5. Who has God placed in your path you can care for this week?

1 Timothy 4:11-5:2

November 9, 2025

1. Our Demonstration of the Gospel
2. Our Proclamation of the Gospel
3. Our Application of the Gospel

Discussion Questions:

1. As always, read the passage together, pray for God's help, and then note the main things you see in these verses. Ask these two questions: 1) what does it mean? and 2) how does it apply to my life?
2. How are you currently "demonstrating" the gospel to others? Where do you need to repent of your sin? Where do you need additional formation in your personal walk with the Lord (speech, conduct, love, faith, purity)?
3. Who are your primary spiritual influences? How are their words shaping the ways you think, feel, and act? Who are you currently influencing or shaping with your "gospel proclamation" (children, co-workers, peers, etc.)?
4. How do you typically respond to honest, loving correction? Are you currently living in accountability relationships with others?
5. Take some time to pray for those who are in specific roles of spiritual leadership in our church (pastors, elders, deacons, Sunday School teachers, small group leaders, youth and children volunteers, etc.).

1 Timothy 4:1-10

November 2, 2025

1. The Wrong Kind of Training
2. The Right Kind of Training

Discussion Questions:

1. Why does false teaching about denying yourself certain things seem attractive to us?
2. What is the place of fasting if certain foods aren't forbidden?
3. If external sins are bad, and willpower isn't necessarily wrong, what's the problem with using our willpower to focus on external sins?
4. Walk through together how the right kind of training uses the starting place of the gospel? How does it work in an environment of the gospel?
5. How do we mortify a sin?

1 Timothy 3:14-16

October 19, 2025

1. Place for God's Truth
2. Power of God's Truth

Discussion Questions:

1. As always, take time to read the passage together, to pray asking for God's help, and then note the main things you see in the text? What's it saying?
2. Of the three descriptions of the church (household of God, church of the living God, pillar and buttress of the truth), which is the hardest for you to believe?
3. In those places you feel stuck, unable to start the things you should do or stop the things you shouldn't, what hasn't worked for you? What has worked for you? Why?
4. Remember "mystery" is something known, but it had to be revealed. It reveals to us a glorious savior who died for our sins and is far more satisfying than anything we want by not starting or not stopping those things we can't seem to defeat. How is Jesus, specifically, more satisfying than something you struggle with?

1 Timothy 3:1-13

October 12, 2025

1. The World Needs a Changed Church
2. How the Church Changes

Discussion Questions:

1. As always, take time to read the passage together, to pray asking for God's help, and then note the main things you see in the text? What's it saying?
2. If the world needs the church to be a place of relationships built on and supporting God's truth, can you think of times you've seen in action? In your life? To someone else? It's helpful to remember how these things are lived out.
3. Of the list of character traits for elders and deacons, which one would you most like to grow in?
4. Talk some together about specific individuals you all know who might be lonely, who might be ministered to through hospitality. Pray for them by name and ask God to show you who to include them in your life so they might hear God's truth.
5. What are you tempted to "hold to" instead of the mystery of the faith, as it was described? Where are you building hope or confidence other than the gospel? How is the gospel better than those things?
6. Please pray together for your elders and deacons. We are weak and flawed men who constantly need God's grace and help.

John 8:1-11

October 5, 2025

Remaking God in Our Own Image

Robert Cunningham

1. Jesus Confronts Self-Righteous Ethics
2. Jesus Confronts Secular Ethics

Discussion Questions:

1. What stood out to you from this week's message?
2. Why do you think Jesus came across often as offensive to the moral of society but attractive to the immoral?
3. How were the religious leaders trying to trap Jesus in this passage, and how does Jesus reverse it?
4. How might you be guilty of emphasizing others' immorality or sin while at the same time de-emphasizing your own?
5. What are some ways we might be tempted to make God in our own image?
6. What might it look like to repent of your own self-righteous sexual ethics and you seek to engage people with whom you disagree?
7. Robert mentioned that self-identity today often means sexual identity becomes the prevailing identity of a person's life. Have you faced this in any relationships close to you?
8. How can Jesus actually say to the woman in the story that he does not condemn her? What is this statement based on, and how does his words relate to us?

1 Timothy 2:8-15, Part 2

September 28, 2025

3. Humility and Clothes
4. Humility and Authority

Discussion Questions:

9. Paul addresses women in the Ephesus church who were dressing in ways to show off (and even worse). What are things in the life of the church that men or women use to show off, to draw attention to themselves? What's the solution?
10. In what ways did Jesus, as one in authority, sacrifice for us?
11. In what ways did Jesus, as one under authority, submit himself to the Father for us?
12. In light of that, how are we to understand the biblical gender roles?
13. More than which gender does what, we all need to see how Jesus's example transforms the question. Spend time praying and praising him for his submission for our sake.

1 Tim 2:8-15

September 21, 2025

1. Broken Masculinity
2. Biblical Masculinity

Discussion Questions:

1. To what degree do you form your opinions by starting with your political or societal views, and then adding some Scripture where it works; or start with Scripture and then form everything else around that?
2. What is your knee jerk view of men? Men and women will have positive and negative views. How does that shape how you read passages like this?
3. What is your knee jerk view of women? Men and women will have positive and negative views. How does that shape how you read passages like this?
4. What do you think of masculinity? How is it shaped by culture or experience, or the Bible?

Psalms 102, Service of Lament

September 14, 2025

1. Pour out your heart.
2. Fill up your heart.

Discussion Questions:

1. What keeps you from pouring out your heart to God?
2. What phrases in vv3-11 resonate with you? Why?
3. What descriptions of God in vv12-28 resonate with you? Connect with you? Why?
4. Read Hebrews 1:10-12 and compare it with Psalm 102:23-28. If Jesus prayed these words and felt these things, how does it help us?
5. Take time to pray for one another in your sufferings and trials.

1 Timothy 2:1-7

September 7, 2025

Discussion Questions:

1. Spend a few minutes praying together, asking God to reveal himself to you through this passage. Then read the passage, noting its main ideas and its basic flow – make special note of words like “all” and “one” as you read.
2. Consistent prayer proves difficult for many Christians. What deters or distracts you from the blessing and benefit of prayer?
3. Paul encourages Timothy and the church in Ephesus to pray for “all people.” Who tends to fall to the bottom of your prayer list? Who is excluded all together? Why?
4. What does a “peaceful, quiet, godly, and dignified” Christian life look like for you as a 21st-century American?
5. Is salvation inclusive, exclusive, or both? Explain your answers.
6. How does Christ’s work as your Mediator before the Father give you confidence, hope, and purpose?

1 Timothy 1:12-20

August 31, 2025

Discussion Questions:

1. Spend a few minutes praying together, asking God to reveal himself to you through this passage. Then read the passage, noting its main ideas, understanding its basic flow.
2. We get used to the idea that Paul was a persecutor and it doesn’t surprise or confound us. What do we lose as individuals and as a church when we forget that?
3. We mentioned we’re afraid of being friendless, powerless, or meaningless so we hide from each other. Which of the three pose the biggest challenge to you?
4. What do you think it was like for Jesus who only knew glory, to experience shame?
5. Every group we have at CPC is in a different place. It may be appropriate to share hard things about yourself with your group. You might not be ready for that. Spend time praying that you each would have at least one person you could be honest with for the glory of God.

1 Timothy 1:1-11

August 24, 2025

Discussion Questions:

1. Spend a few minutes praying together, asking God to reveal him to you through this passage. Then read the passage, noting its main ideas, helping each other with its basic flow.
2. Holding the truth casually or arrogantly—which one are you more guilty of? How does that show in your life?
3. Are there parts of Scripture that are more tempting for you to compromise on? Why is that?
4. In what ways recently or in the past have you mixed truth with pride?
5. In what specific ways can the truth and grace of Jesus help you to confront specific places where you mix truth and pride?
6. Spend time asking God to press these truths into your hearts.