



INSTRUCTIONS ON BEING THE CHURCH DISCUSSION QUESTIONS


1TIM 3:14-16

1 **Paul wrote to Timothy so that he might “know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.”** Begin your group by talking about the identity of the church. How does understanding what the church is help inform how we’re supposed to behave?


2 **In both last week’s sermon on community and in this week’s text, we find the phrase “the household of God.”** (Eph. 2:19) What are some of the implications of that metaphor for the church?

 *How can the church live more like the family that they have been made into through the gospel?*

 *What is something you could you do to uphold the imagery of the “household of God” at Gospel Grace?*

 *If people saw the church more like a family, what difference do you think that would make?*

3 **How does the church function as the “pillar and buttress of the truth?”** Does that mean that the church is infallible? If not, what does it mean?

 *As part of the church, how can you practically hold firm and hold high the truth in your sphere of life? (See also Ephesians 4:11-16, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Matthew 7:24-27, 1 Peter 3:15-16)*

4 **The assembly of believers is called “the church of the living God” in 1 Timothy 3:15.** What are your thoughts and feelings about the living God being amongst us in corporate worship? (1 Corinthians 3:16-17, Ephesians 2:19-22, 1 Peter 2:4-5, Hebrews 12:22-24, Revelation 21:3)

🗨 *What kind of things about the church should cause a visiting unbeliever to be convinced that God is truly present in our midst? (1 Cor 14:24-25)*

5 **1 Timothy 3:16 is an ancient hymn or creed that Paul seems to be citing.** What values do shared common confessions and creeds have for God’s people?

🗨 *What stands out to you in the six lines of truth selected by Paul (maybe things present or absent)?*

🗨 *What does this declaration of Christ’s glory mean to you personally and how should it shape our lives? Think specifically of how these truths can support you in what you are currently facing.*

6 **What do you think the community around us knows about Jesus based solely on our church’s communication of Who He is and what He is like?**