

"A TIMELY REMINDER"

POLITICS, PROVIDENCE, AND PREACHING ● 2 Timothy 1 – 4
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① Keeping the Main Thing the Main Thing...

- A. God graciously saves sinners in Christ, gives them the Spirit and puts them on mission with His church (2 Tim. 1).

- B. The church is a learning community that matures by the work of the Spirit through the word of God preached (2 Tim. 3).

- C. The church has been entrusted with the word and sound doctrine as our priority in this final age of humanity (2Tim.2-3:16-17).

② Sundays, Sermons, and Service...

- A. **The church as preaching community of the word and gospel**
(Acts 2; 5:42; 8:4,12,25,40; 10:36; 11:20; 15:35; 17:18; 20:25; 28:31)

- B. **The charge to preachers to preach in church (2 Tim.4:1–5)**
The outstanding example of Paul (1 Tim. 2:7, 2 Tim.1:11, Ro 1:15, 1Co 9:16, 2 Cor.11)
The office of elders who preach (Jm. 5:14, 1 Pet 5:1-5, Tit.1:5, 1Tim.5:17-18)

- C. **The call to be a preaching community in the culture**
(2 Tim 1:8, 2:14, 3:16-17, 4:2, Eph. 4:11-13)

③ Take-Away Reminders...

- A. The Preacher's work:

- B. The Church's work:

- C. The LORD's work:

COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

Reflective Questions for You and Your Small Group

1. Read over the book of 2 Timothy and note the warnings Paul gives to Timothy. Do any of these warnings speak to something you are facing?
2. Why must every sermon be biblical and rooted in the gospel? Why do we oppose sermons that are motivational talks, positive stories or just light on the Bible?
3. Have you ever attended a church that was Bible-light in the preaching or so-called "seeker-sensitive" that watered down doctrine and relied on human marketing or trends to grow the church? How did you come to realize it was bad? What was your journey into good biblical preaching?
4. While there were itinerant preachers in the Bible (see 3 John), preaching is more often tied to proven male leadership in the church (eldership). Why is this healthy?
5. Since preaching is so important for the church, what do you during the week outside of the Sunday gathering to feed your soul good preaching?
6. Preaching should lead to action in the life of the hearers. How have recent sermons in the church spurred you into action in sharing the gospel, making disciples, loving God and loving your neighbors?