

SMALL GROUP Q'S

The Pillar and Buttress of the Truth

February 21, 2016

I Timothy 3:14-15

- 1.) When you think about "church," what comes to mind? Is it a place you go, a group of people, a part of life, a social club? How would you describe how you engage with the Church?
- 2.) Put in your own words what "the truth" is that the Church is to be a pillar and buttress of in I Timothy 3. In what ways has that message become "old hat" to you? Does it ignite your emotions to consider it?
- 3.) What are a pillar and a buttress in architectural terms? How does this help us understand what their job is in regard to the truth God has entrusted to the Church?
- 4.) What is one description of the mission of the Church or an aspect of the Church's role that has been challenging or helpful for you to consider in the past few weeks?
- 5.) How do you think God may be calling you to reorder your personal and family life to focus intentionally on the mission He has given you as his follower and child?

HINT: Don't forget to consider relationships, schedules, time, priorities, money, jobs, etc. Remember the quotation from Ray Ortlund as well: "It's time for us Christians to stop perceiving 'church' as a weekend option and start seeing it as Ground Zero for world reconciliation."

- 6.) In what ways is Southwood corporately on board with God's mission? Where do you see some areas that need growth or re-focusing in this regard?
- 7.) Read together the qualifications for elders and deacons at the beginning of I Timothy 3. How are these important in light of the mission God gives the Church?
- 8.) Discuss the illustration Will used about the lifesaving station at the end of the sermon. How can we keep each other focused on our primary mission rather than defaulting to self-serving goals?
- 9.) Two weeks in a row Southwood has witnessed installations, taken vows to support church officers, and been charged as a congregation. What is something you have personally taken away from these services?



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