

(Part 3)

To Know and Live

For Pastors, Teachers, and All Believers

Sunday, 2/8/15 at 8:00 & 10:45 + Monday, 2/9/15 at 7 PM

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: We were apart from Christ, but now – by God's kind and powerful work – we are in Christ, thus benefitting from Jesus' sinless living and substitutionary suffering! What does that mean? We still sin sometimes, but God sees us to be righteous in His sight through Jesus; therefore, we are at peace and confident about our entrance into heaven!

Today, in part 3 of Important Passages to Know and Live, we focus on \rightarrow Biblical accuracy, \rightarrow our interaction with others, and \rightarrow the importance of thorough teaching.

10: The importance of Biblical Accuracy:

Paul instructed Timothy, a young pastor:

⇒ ^{NAS} 2 Timothy 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth. // Dr. Kretzmann wrote these comments:

"Timothy should use all diligence...to prove himself a faithful servant of the Gospel and to stand approved in this respect in the sight of God.... He should be such a workman as not to cause disgrace, either to his Lord and Master or to himself. [Regarding the accurate handling of the word of truth, C.F.W. Walther wrote that] 'secure, careless, wanton sinners must hear the thunder of the Law; contrite and poor sinners, however, the sweet voice of the Savior's grace." May the Lord help me and all pastors to rightly handle His Word of Truth!

11: Our Interaction with Others:

⇒ For Everyone: ^{NET} Matthew 18:15 "If your brother [thus a fellow-believer] sins against you, go and point out his sin to him when you are alone with him. If he



listens to you, you have won your brother. ¹⁶ But if he will not listen, take one or two others with you so that you have two or three witnesses to verify every word.

¹⁷ If he will not listen to them, **tell it to the church**. But if he will not listen even to the church, treat him like a heathen and a tax collector." // As people who are sorry for our sins and believe in Jesus as our Savior, we are members of the one body of Christ. So we should always be in harmony with each other! To maintain such harmony, Jesus gave us these steps:

- <u>Go alone to the one who sinned</u> to kindly help him see his sin and work things out.
- If unsuccessful, try again along with one or two others - to kindly help him see his sin and work things out.
- If still unsuccessful, ask the church—the entire body of Christ, to help in the process. If the person still refuses to see his sin, be sorry, and work things out; then treat him like an

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unbeliever – that the Lord might bring him to his senses and restore him to the body of Christ.

- ➡ For Pastors: NAS Ezekiel 3:17 "Son of man, <u>I have</u> appointed you a watchman to the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from My mouth, <u>warn them</u> from Me. // So today's pastors are like a watchman on a wall: → watching for sin and → speaking words of warning from the Lord.
 - ¹⁸ When I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die'; and <u>you do not warn him</u> or speak out to

warn the wicked from his wicked way that he may live, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but <u>his</u> blood I will require at your hand. //



The pastor who does *not* warn the wicked has the wicked man's blood on his hands : (

¹⁹ Yet <u>if you have warned the wicked</u>, and he does not turn from his wickedness or from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but <u>you have delivered yourself</u>." // So the faithful pastor will do the unpleasant yet important work of issuing God's warning.

12: The importance of Thorough Teaching:

ESV Acts 20:26 ...I am innocent of the blood of all of you,
for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole
counsel of God. // Paul spoke those words to the pastors
in Ephesus, men to whom he had taught the Scriptures –
not just the easy parts or favorite parts but all parts!
Therefore, since Paul had done his part in teaching them

God's Truth, *he was innocent of their blood*. It is also my desire to teach you *all of God's Truth*: ✓ so you can benefit from it and ✓ I can be innocent of your blood.

Paul wrote these words to Timothy: NAS 2 Timothy 2:2
And the things which you have

heard from <u>me</u> in the presence of many witnesses, these <u>entrust to</u> <u>faithful men</u>, who will be <u>able to</u>



teach others also. // The emphasis is on thorough teaching so that one person fully equips the next person to pass on the precious truth of God's Holy Word: You → Me → Faithful Men → Others! That is the essence of discipleship! Let's get going to thoroughly learn and thoroughly share God's Word!

Conclusion: Regarding the many important passages in this series, let us gladly *know them, *learn them, *live them, and *share them! And all God's people said: *Amen!*

Some ways to apply today's sermon:

- God's Word is very important, so let us grow in handling it accurately by attending a Bible study each week (Sundays at 9:30 and every other Sunday at 6 PM; Thursdays at 10 AM; Saturdays at 7 PM and once each month at 8:30 AM).
- 2. If a fellow-believer has sinned against us, let us go today and work things out with that person.
- 3. Let us *thoroughly learn* and *thoroughly pass on* what we know to others!

For a brochure which contains all the passages in this series: click here

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