

“Trusting God’s Plan & Purpose”

1 Timothy 2:8-15

11/21/20

OUTLINE

WELCOME:

(1 minute)

INTRO:

(3 minutes)

- **Illustration:** Critical Airplane Parts
 - **Q:** What is the most critical piece of an airplane?
 - Some will say...
 - Engine → (*strength*)
 - Wings → (*lift*)
 - Rudder/Ailerons → (*direction*)
 - I say... **THE PILOT!** → (*operator*)
 - Need for one who understands parts + role
 - W/o knowledgeable operator plane *will* crash
 - All pieces are required to make plane fly, **BUT** → each piece is obsolete if used incorrectly

RECAP & CONTEXT:

(2 minutes)

- **Where we started:** Timothy to lead Church of Ephesus
 - Called to **PROCLAIM** the Gospel

- Called to **GUARD** the Gospel
- Called to **CELEBRATE** the Gospel
- Called to **FIGHT** for the Gospel
- **Where we are going** (purpose for letter): Book Overview
 - Roles/function of men & women
 - Choosing Leadership (Qualifications)
 - Reality of Spiritual Warfare
 - ****How Church is to point others towards Jesus****
- **Where we are now:** Current Situation
 - **WHO** → The CHURCH
 - **WHAT** → Distinction of ROLES
 - **HOW** → Defining FUNCTIONS
 - **WHY** → Providing REASONS
- **Sermon Title:** “Trusting God’s Plan & Purpose”

BIG IDEA:

(1 minute)

- **Big Idea:** The Church is called to represent God’s holiness
 - The people of God are called to faithfully represent God’s holiness to the world
 - Holiness is not just about appearance, but obedience
 - God’s directives must lead church’s action & response

PRAY:

(1 minute)

READ:

(1 minute)

- Text: **1 Timothy 2:8-15**

*Therefore, I want the **men in every place** to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or argument. **9 Also, the women** are to dress themselves in modest clothing, with decency and good sense; not with elaborate hairstyles, gold, pearls, or expensive apparel, **10 but with good works, as is proper for women who affirm that they worship God. 11 A woman should learn in silence with full submission. 12 I do not allow a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; instead, she is to be silent. 13 For Adam was created first, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and transgressed. 15 But she will be saved through childbearing, if she continues in faith, love, and holiness, with good sense.***

PREVIEW:

(1 minute)

- **Main Points:** Paul explains this passage by outlining...
 - 1 – **Roles** (within the Church) (v.8-10)
 - 2 – **Functions** (of those roles) (v.11-12)
 - 3 – **Reasons** (roles & functions exist) (v.13-15)

PILLAR 1: **Roles** (v.8-10)

(15 minutes)

(v.8)

- **“Therefore”** = Connecting Paul’s past & present instruction
 - Phrase used to build on previous instruction + explain new instruction
 - Previous instruction = Fighting good Fight
 - Prayer impacts heart
 - Heart impacts actions/witness
 - Connects **WHAT** to do w/ **HOW** to do it
 - WHAT = Pray for world + protect witness

- HOW = Pursuing God's holiness
- 2 Groups Specified:
 - (1) Men / male
 - (2) Women / female
- Instruction for **MEN** specified
 - *"To pray"*
 - Prayer = conversation w/ God
 - Reveals a reliance on God
 - Men are leading with action
 - **ILLUSTRATION:** Prayer = an umbrella w/ spokes
 - (1) Petitions.....(heartfelt)
 - (2) Intercessions....(confidence)
 - (3) Thanksgiving.....(gratitude)
 - *"Lifting up holy hands"*
 - **CONTEXT:** Cultural expression
 - Jewish audience would understand
 - **ILLUSTRATION:** Western Wall in Jerusalem
 - Throw hands up toward God
 - Sign of submission to God
 - A posture of humility toward God
 - An attitude of need for God
 - Literal crying out to God
 - *"Without anger or argument"*
 - An expression of the heart (good or bad)

- Call to peace + unity
- Aimed at False Teachers who caused controversy & division w/in church (1:5-6)

*⁵ Now the goal of our instruction is **love** that comes from a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith. ⁶ Some have departed from these and turned aside to **fruitless discussion**.*

- **NOT** the same as “Fighting the Good fight” (1:18)
- *“In every place”*
 - Reminder → Reliance on God is not limited to Sunday mornings @ church
 - Calling → Live life on mission **ALWAYS!**
 - Command → Lead from front w/ action

(v.9-10)

- Instruction for **WOMEN** specified
 - *“Also, women are to...”*
 - Instruction to men also applies to women
 - Reminder to remain focused on Christ + pursue holy living
 - Prelude for how women are to function
 - *“Dress themselves in modest clothing”*
 - HOW TO:
 - With “decency + good sense”
 - With “good works”

- HOW NOT:
 - Elaborate hairstyles
 - Gaudy jewels
 - Flashy clothing
- **CONTEXT:**
 - Paul addresses the cultural issue in Ephesus
 - Temple of Artemis in Ephesus
 - 1 of the 7 Wonders of the World
 - Based around a sexualized female cult
 - Your appearance gained sexual attention
- **THEREFORE:**
 - ****Paul isn't concerned about fashion, but distraction****
 - Paul is **NOT** making fashion statements
 - Paul **IS** evaluating heart, motives, & actions
 - Selfishness vs. Godliness
 - Paul is presenting God's directives through *cultural contextualization*
 - Paul gives similar instruction to Corinthians (1 Cor. 11)
 - In Corinth, head coverings were a sign of submission
 - To exhibit God's order/function, he instructs women to wear head coverings (*cultural*)
 - **WHY** → To point toward Jesus

- **ILLUSTRATION:** Kentucky vs. Las Vegas
 - Instruction = Do NOT bet money
 - KY = Kentucky Derby...
 - *Horse races to explain*
 - LV = Casinos/gambling...
 - *Casinos to explain*
 - How Paul describes instruction changes, **BUT** the principle does not
- **APPLICATION:**
 - **Q:** Are we listening for God's voice & focused on pointing others towards Christ?
 - **Q:** What is your goal in life?
 - **MEN** (false teachers) → desired respect
 - **WOMEN** (cult influence) → desired attention

PILLAR 2: Functions (v.11-12)

(12 minutes)

(v.11)

- **WHO** this applies to (identify the role):
 - *All women*
 - *"A woman is to..." = singular tense*
 - Tense is for individual females (not just wives)
 - All-encompassing instruction for women
- **WHAT** women are to do:
 - They are *"to learn"*
 - Called to grow in knowledge + Christlikeness

- **HOW** women are to learn:
 - (1) *“Quietly”*
 - Emphasizes attitude + heart
 - Reminder to keep focus on Christ
 - Does NOT mean 100% physically quiet
 - Does mean subservient to church leadership
 - (2) *“With full submission”*
 - To the authority of Church leadership
 - A representation of submissiveness to Christ
 - Does **NOT** mean abandon thinking, but surrender to obedience
- **WHAT** women *cannot* do:
 - (1) *“Teach”* over men
 - (2) *“Have authority”* over men
 - **BUT** → Remain *“quiet”* (x2)
 - **THEREFORE:**
 - Men ARE called to teach + hold authority in the church
 - By addressing what one group should not do, Paul in contrast affirms what the other group should
 - Outlines male/female functions within church
 - Men = Teach / Lead (authority role)
 - Women = Listen / Follow (leaders)
- **CONTEXT:** Judaism vs. Christianity
 - 2 major cultural influences:

- (1) Judaism → Do THIS!
 - (2) Secularism → Do WHATEVER!
- Paul's directions to women were contrary to the culture
 - "to Learn":
 - Judaism = non-existent for women
 - Christianity = encouraged women (to grow in godliness)
 - "in Silence":
 - Judaism = sign of unimportance
 - Christianity = sign of function & role
 - Culture:
 - Judaism = women inferior to men
 - Christianity = women equal but different
- **THEREFORE:**
 - NOT a question of superiority vs inferiority
 - **BUT** → a question of role + function
- **ILLUSTRATION:** Patrolman vs. Chief
 - Differ in role / position
 - Patrolman = grunt
 - Chief = brass
 - Differ in function / job
 - Patrolman = On the streets
 - Chief = Behind the desk
 - **BUT** → Share same mission / purpose
 - Patrolman & Chief both POLICE

- PM & Chief both “*serve and protect*”
 - Equally important, yet one is under the authority of other
- **APPLICATION:**
 - Christian men & women differ in function but share the same mission of God.
 - **Q:** ___?
 - **Q:** ___?

PILLAR 3: Reasons (v.13-15)

(10 minutes)

(v.13-14)

- #1 – Order of Creation
 - *“For Adam was formed first, then Eve”*
 - “*For*” = purpose for order
 - All stems from God’s design
 - God’s plan is perfect b/c He is perfect
 - Brings to light *the Creator (God) aspect*
 - ****God, the Creator, can do whatever He chooses w/ creation b/c He is the one who created it**
 - **ILLUSTRATION:** The potter & clay
 - **Isaiah 29:16; 64:8** (read below)

(29) You have everything backward! Should the potter be thought of as clay? Should what is made say of its maker, "He didn't

make me"? Should what is shaped say of the one who shaped it, "He doesn't understand"?

(16) But now, LORD, you are our father. We are the clay, and you are our potter. All of us are the work of your hand.

○ We ought not grumble against God...

- **Job 38:1,4-7** (read below)

Then the LORD answered Job from the whirlwind. He said:

⁴ Where were you when I established the earth?

Tell me, if you have^[a] understanding.

⁵ Who fixed its dimensions? Certainly you know!

Who stretched a measuring line across it?

⁶ What supports its foundations?

Or who laid its cornerstone

⁷ while the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

○ **APPLICATION:**

- **Q:** Are you living with reverence for God?
- **Q:** Are you thanking Him for His work in your life or questioning Him b/c you don't like His ways?

● #2 – Reality of sin

- *“Adam was NOT deceived...the woman WAS deceived **AND** transgressed.”*

- **Genesis 3:1-7** → When sin took place

- Deceived = tricked & taken advantage of
- Transgressed = knowingly infringed rules
- God addresses Adam first as the leader of the two
 - Eve sinned, **BUT** Adam is blamed for not protecting & leading (as the man)
 - **ILLUSTRATION:** Chain of Command
 - If officer does something wrong
 - Citizen will complain to chief
 - Officer receives consequence
 - **BUT** → Chief takes responsibility b/c they lead department & officers
- Applicable consequences for sin (Gen. 3:16-19):
 - WOMEN:
 - (1) Women will experience pain during childbirth
 - (2) Women will desire & compete for authority w/ their husbands
 - MEN:
 - (1) Have to work hard for food
 - (2) Life will end & death will occur

(v.15)

- There is HOPE
 - (1) *“She will be saved through childbearing”*

- Does NOT mean you must have children to be saved
- Does NOT mean childbirth is easy and safe
- DOES point to birth of the messiah, **JESUS!**

- **Genesis 3:15** → *I will put hostility between you (snake) and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.*

- (2) *“If she continues in faith, love, & holiness w/ good sense.”*
 - Attributes associated w/ godly women
 - Fruits women should produce in their walk
 - Fruits God has made women capable of bearing

- **APPLICATION:**

- **Q:** Are you satisfied in God and obedient to His ways?
- **Q:** Do you see that alternating from God’s design is sinful & causes heartache?

REITERATE MAIN POINTS:

(1 minute)

- 1 – **Roles** (within the Church) (v.8-10)
- 2 – **Functions** (of those roles) (v.11-12)
- 3 – **Reasons** (roles & functions exist) (v.13-15)

CLOSE / PRAY:

(2 minutes)