# "The Church of the Living God" 1 Timothy 3:14–4:16

"As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine." (1 Timothy 1:3)

## The Church's Identity (3:14–15)

"In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit." (Ephesians 2:22)

"For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God." (1 Thessalonians 1:9)

### The Church's Confession (3:16)

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

"And was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 1:4)

"Who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him." (1 Peter 3:22)

# The Church's Opposition (4:1–5)

"When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies." (John 8:44)

"Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch." (Colossians 2:21)

"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." (Mark 8:34)

"Not to go beyond what is written." (1 Corinthians 4:6)

"You say grace before meals. All right. But I say grace before the play and the opera, and grace before I open a book, and grace before sketching, painting, swimming, fencing, boxing, walking, playing, dancing; and grace before I dip the pen in the ink." (G. K. Chesterton)

"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." (1 Corinthians 10:31)

# The Church's Servants (4:6–15)

"On the day called Sunday, all who live in cities or in the country gather together to one place, and the memoirs of the apostles and the writings of the prophets are read, as long as time permits; then, when the reader has finished, the president speaks, instructing and exhorting the people to imitate these good things." (Justin Martyr)

#### Notes


### Discuss

- How does our view of the church affect Christian living?
- What is one of the elements of the confession about Jesus in 1 Timothy 3:16 that helps you better appreciate his greatness?
- What are some ways that Christians might be tempted to "go beyond what is written" (1 Corinthians 4:6) today?
- What is something that you can personally learn from how Paul instructed Timothy to go about his ministry?

### Read

Jeremiah 10:1–25; Mark 7:1–23

### Pray

- That God will give you a more accurate understanding of the greatness of Jesus.
- That God will protect his church from the threat of false teaching.
- That God will help us to have a biblical understanding of the church.

### Announcements

• Members' Meeting: March 13 at 5:00pm