

## The Household of God > 1 Timothy 3:14-16

**3:14-15** The point of Paul's instruction: Paul writes these words to Timothy (and to the Ephesian church overall) so that they would know how to behave – how to live. Note that these instructions aren't only personal / individual, they describe how to live and act as the household of God, which is the church. We have been given the mission of holding to and holding out the Gospel.

**3:16** And what does that Gospel look like? Here, Paul describes it in the form of a poem or hymn: Christ's humanity, the confirmation of His holiness by the Spirit, His deity, His fulfillment of all the Messianic promises, the divine response to Him by all those who believed, and His resurrection and ascension. In short: the church is called to safeguard, cherish, and clearly communicate this Gospel.

**Context:** These verses explain not only why Paul has written about false teachers and how the church is to have faithful teaching; they also show how these teachings connect.

**Aim:** The God-given mission of the church is to testify to the Lord who saves all who trust in Jesus.

**Gospel:** Who Christ is – and what He has accomplished – are at the very center of our hope. This is why we exist as a church, this is why all of the other applications of this letter exist: they are our response to salvation, a response that aims to introduce those in the world around us to our Savior.

**Application:** How does this vision of the church challenge your own ideas about the church's purpose? How will you be a part of this work of holding to and holding out the Gospel?

**Here is how I will apply these truths:** \_\_\_\_\_

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