



HOW TO BEHAVE IN CHURCH

1 TIMOTHY 3:14-16 // ROGER FREEMAN
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We should behave properly as the church because of God's plan (1 Timothy 3:15a, 1 Peter 2:4), God's presence (1 Timothy 3:15b), and God's purpose (1 Timothy 3:15c).

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some behaviour rules that were/are typical in your moral upbringing? (No drinking! No swearing! No skating at the roller rink!) Do these rules have any clear relationship to faith in the gospel?
2. Looking back, who do you think those rules impressed, God or man? Are we the church because of behaviour practices or because of our new identity? (1 Peter 2:4)
3. God is building us into a spiritual house. There are advantages to being together in our faith. Pastor Roger called these "bright ideas" that happen when people want to assemble for ministry. What are some of the bright ideas you've seen develop from a local church? (A bible study, a food ministry, youth program, etc.) How does that behaviour glorify Christ?
4. What does it mean to say that God is present with his church? How does his presence help the church support (pillar and buttress) the truth of the gospel? (1 Timothy 15).?

5. 1 Timothy 3 gives specific direction regarding the behaviour of elders and deacons. Have you ever served the church in one of these roles or desired to do so? What is mandated behaviour in these roles? What do people get to choose? Who do they represent as they serve?

6. **Part A:** There are two verbs below used to describe the behaviour of the early church as they confessed their faith in Jesus Christ as the risen Messiah. Circle the words that describe the church's activity.

Manifested

Vindicated

Seen

Proclaimed

Believed

Taken Up

Part B: Consider the words you circled above. How does your church activity help to uncover the "mystery of godliness?" (1 Timothy 3:16). What are bright ideas to explore as you get more personally involved?

"Don't gauge holiness by what is accepted or by what is denied or given up. Gauge it by how much like Christ people are."

7. Roger gave out the above quote in this sermon. Consider its meaning. Have you been using the correct gauge for holiness? If so, how can you help others do this? If not, what adjustments can you make immediately?