

# SERMON REFLECTIONS

## Sound Doctrines, Strong Living

1 Timothy 1 | 30 June 2024 | Rev Dr Aaron Tay

### Reflection Questions

1. 1 Timothy 1:3-4 “Certain men in the Ephesian church were teaching false doctrines, which promoted controversies, rather than advancing God’s work.”
  - a) **True or False? Do we know our Christian doctrines?**
  - b) **What are some true/fundamental doctrines that you can think of, which are of importance in our world today?**
  - c) **What are some false teachings that are being propagated as proper Christian doctrines, or accepted as doctrinally acceptable in some churches today, which instead leads to controversies?**

*(In the sermon, I shared about doctrinal differences that some churches have with regards to certain biblical passages or theological area. I would like to caution that we should not spend much DG time discussing about certain specific doctrinal differences, especially not to insist that your own position is 100% correct – some debates have gone on for centuries.)*

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#### Our Vision

To be disciples of Jesus Christ

#### Our Mission

We exist to make disciples who love God, love one another and love the lost



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2. 1 Timothy 1:5 “The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” For Paul, it is for the sake of love that Timothy is to address the issues of false doctrines (1 Timothy 1:4), and to teach the right ones (the rest of 1 Timothy).
  - a) **What does it mean that love comes from a pure heart, good conscience and a sincere faith? What does such a love look like?**
  - b) **Do you agree that these virtues are fundamental for a healthy Christian life and community? Discuss.**
3. Sound doctrines must lead to strong living (biblical thinking must lead to believers’ transformation). 1 Timothy 1:8-9 “We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, ...”
  - a) **Discuss the purpose of the law in revealing sin and guiding moral conduct.**
  - b) **How does God’s grace and mercy work with the law (see Paul’s personal testimony in verses 12 to 14)?**
  - c) **Do you have a testimony of someone who was a “great” sinner but was transformed by God’s grace and mercy?**

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4. Paul called Timothy his “true son in the faith”.
  - a) **Do you have a spiritual father/mother or spiritual children? Describe your relationship and what you do as spiritual parents and children.**
  
5. In order for us to help each other grow deeper in faith, we need to invest/belong to a Disciple Group, or even a mentoring group (greater accountability/love). But trust is needed if one is to feel safe to share deeper, and hold each other accountable.
  - a) **Is there trust in our DGs or mentoring groups for us to share personal matters?**
  
  - b) **How can we build (greater) trust in our DGs and mentoring groups?**

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