

Handle God's Word Well 1 Timothy 1:1-11

Main Idea: Handle God's Word correctly by avoiding strange doctrines, myths, and fruitless discussion, but rather encouraging love, a good conscience, and a sincere faith.

I. Challenge others not to teach strange doctrines, pay attention to myths and genealogies, or engage in fruitless discussion (1:3-4, 6-7).

⁵ For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you, ⁶ *namely*, if any man is above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion. ⁷ For the overseer must be above reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain, ⁸ but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled, ⁹ holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict. Titus 1:5-9 (NASB)

II. Just like the Law has to be used lawfully, so handle God's word correctly by teaching to produce love from a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith (1:5, 8-11).

The purposes of the Law:

1. To bring knowledge of sin (Rom. 3:20; 7:7, 13).

²⁰ because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law *comes* the knowledge of sin. Romans 3:20 (NASB)

2. To arouse sin in a person so that they know it is present (Rom. 5:29; 7:5,8,11).

3. To tutor people of their need to be justified by faith in Christ (Gal. 3:24).

²⁴**Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith.**
Galatians 3:24 (NASB)

4. Not to remove sin or make a person righteous since it is unable to do either (Acts 13:39; Rom. 8:13; Gal. 2:21; 3:21; Heb. 7:19).
5. Not to be a means of salvation (Rom. 3:28; Gal. 2:16; 3:11)

⁴**Therefore, my brethren, you also were made to die to the Law through the body of Christ, so that you might be joined to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God.**
Romans 7:4 (NASB)

Love from a pure heart

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A good conscience

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A genuine faith

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