

## WEEK 1: DEFENDING THE GOSPEL. 1 TIMOTHY 1:1-11

In the first part of Paul's letter, he doesn't talk about all the details of false teaching, but the implications of it for the Church. False teaching always undermines the true Gospel. **Jesus + anything** is not the Gospel. **The Gospel is that Jesus' sacrifice is sufficient.** 

What's the Gospel? You and I, in our sin, were separated from God, but God, in His infinite mercy, sent Jesus for us. Jesus lived the perfect life we could never live and substituted Himself in our place. He went to the cross as our sacrifice and took our death (the penalty for sin) upon Himself—exchanging His life for our freedom. He then rose from the dead, ushering in a promised resurrection for His people, who are renewed to worship Him alone.

Paul is trying to get us to see that when we feel the need to go beyond the simplicity of the Gospel, we will jump headlong into false faith. We must defend the Gospel.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- In your own words, how would you describe the Gospel?
- What aspects of the Gospel feel most powerful/relevant to you in this season?
- What kinds of false teaching do you most often see today?
- How have you seen false teaching detract from the centrality of Jesus and His sacrifice?
- How is right doctrine related to love?
- What are some of your go-to resources for Gospel-centered truth?

**Pray**: Thank God for the beauty of His good news and ask Him to cultivate within you a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith.

## **MY NOTES**

## **TODAY'S VERSES:**

1 Timothy 1:1-11 Psalms 34:8 1 Timothy 6:20-21 1 Corinthians 15:17 1 Timothy 4:1-3