



I. The Charge: Stay True (1:3-4)

We are stewards, not speculators of faith.

II. The Purpose: Love (1:5-7)

- A. Genuine love that permeates all of life.
- B. Pride of position replaces love. (1:6-7)

III. Entrusted: Fight for it (1:12-20, 18-19)

- A. Hold on tight.
- B. Be genuine.

How does this apply to me?

INTRO FOR NEXT WEEK

STAYING TRUE: PRAYER AND TRUTH

PASSAGE OVERVIEW:

When the simple purity of the gospel is twisted from within the church and assailed from outside of the church, how should we respond? God's answer may surprise us. He says, first of all, PRAY. And pray with a submissive spirit. Pray for those who oppose us as Christians. Pray for secular leaders. Pray that we may live peaceful lives with abundant opportunities to share the good news of Jesus with others.

Secondly, keep the truth true. Truth doesn't change. It is only the truth of the gospel that can save. So stay true to the word of God. The church belongs to the living God. We are His people in a world that is running in rebellion against Him. So while we pray submissively and live in holiness and respectability, we need to stand true to the gospel.

The gospel is singularly focused on Jesus. He alone mediates between sinful men and a holy God. There is nowhere else we can turn. The gospel is not about us, or what we get. It is about Him; His incarnation, His redemptive work, His glory.

Stay true.

READING FOR NEXT WEEK

1 Timothy 2:1-15; 3:14-16

