

A Faith without Cracks

1 Timothy 1:3-7, 18-20

The last time you filled out an employment application form, did you first read carefully the job description? The short epistles of 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus, are a kind of pastoral job description. As you look at the charge given to Timothy in today's passage, two main instructions stand out:

- * Defend the local church by combatting false doctrine

- * Defend the Christian faith by teaching sound doctrine

What are characteristics of false teachers?

What are the desired outcomes of sound doctrine?

Do these two things seem essential for ministry today?

Can you give an example of false teaching, prevalent in the American church in the 21st century?

vs. 20 How do you feel about Paul calling out two men from the church in Ephesus, in his letter? Should we do that today?

How do we pursue a "sincere faith"?