

**Life in Community**  
**A Doctrinally Sound Community**  
**1 Timothy 1:3-7**

- I. The Danger of Strange Doctrine (3-4)
  - A. Teaching the “other” – strange doctrines
    - 1. This word is only used 2 times in the New Testament
    - 2. Both times it is in 1 Timothy (cf. 6:3)
  - B. What does it look like?
    - 1. It teaches things directly contrary to the gospel
    - 2. It pursues that which is not fitting of the larger goal of gospel instruction (which we see next)
    - 3. It focuses on the exaltation of glory of self- not the blessing and benefit of others
- II. The Goal of Sound Doctrine (5)
  - A. The goal of sound doctrine is love
    - 1. Not “rightness”, prestige, power, or position
    - 2. Love in accordance with “the Law”
    - 3. Love God, Love People – this is the goal of proper instruction
  - B. The source
    - 1. Pure heart – “clean thinking”
    - 2. Good conscience – “Proper moral reasoning”
    - 3. Sincere faith – “genuine belief, without pretense or show”

- C. This should be done in the church; but it also should be a mark of the rest of Christian living (to ourselves, home, public, etc.)
- III. A Careful Distinction between Godly Inquiry and Fruitless Discussion (6-7)
  - A. We should pursue the truth of God, namely sound doctrine
  - B. Doctrine should not be “fruitless”
    - 1. We are to bear fruit in doctrine and practice
    - 2. To do otherwise is to walking onto a “straying path”
  - C. Paul calls for a proper understanding of “the Law” – an absence of love of God and man misses the mark (cf. Mark 12:29-31)
  - D. This reflects Jesus’ own concerns
    - 1. Meet people where they are
    - 2. Teach them truth with love and grace
    - 3. Stand aggressively against improper teaching that promotes self-righteousness and diminishes grace