

**The Body We Cherish:
The Platform for Christian Mission
1 Timothy 3:14-16**

Paul identifies the shape Christ's Church takes by the use of *three descriptive portraits* which explain our deep commitment to it. These portraits are identified for us in verse 15.

1. **The Church is the Family of God – “the house of God” – A Home-Base for the *Familially Disenfranchised*.**

In a world of *fractured families*, this really matters!

2. **The Church is the Community of Life – “the church of the living God” – A Life-Base for the *Spiritually Dead*.**

In a world *suffused with death*, this really matters!

3. **The Church is the Sanctuary of Truth – “the pillar and ground of the truth” – A Truth-Base for the *Tragically Deceived*.**

In a world *in the grip of falsehood*, this really matters!

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