



## The Church – the Pillar and Ground of the Truth

**Text: 1 Timothy 3:14-15**


 **John 17:17** Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.


### **Definitions:**

**Pillar** – a vital support column; without the pillars a building would collapse.

 **Judges 16:29** And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left.

**Ground** – foundation, support; the necessary sub-structure that undergirds a building to keep it from crumbling under distress.


 **Ephesians 2:19-22** 19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; 20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*; 21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: 22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

 **1 Peter 1:25** But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

**b Focus of the Message:** As fellow citizens in the church, we each have a responsibility to uphold and undergird the Word of God in our generation and in our location.

**? Interrogative:** How can I as a fellow citizen in the local church do my part to uphold and undergird the Word of God?


#### **I. Read the Word.**


 **1 Timothy 4:13** Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

#### **II. Memorize the Word.**


 **Psalms 119:11** Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

#### **III. Study the Word.**


 **2 Timothy 2:15** Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.


 **Acts 17:11** These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

#### **IV. Meditate on the Word.**


 **Psalms 1:1-3** 1 Blessed *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2 But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

## V. Defend the Word.


 **Jude 1:3** Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort *you* that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.


 **1 Peter 3:15** But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

## VI. Spread the Word.


 **Mark 16:15** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

## VII. Preach the Word.


 **2 Timothy 4:2** Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

 **1 Corinthians 1:21** For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

## VIII. Obey the Word.

 **John 14:15** If ye love me, keep my commandments.

## IX. Live the Word.

 **James 1:23-25** 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. 25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth *therein*, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

**Conclusion:** Would you like to go to Israel and see the pillars Jachin and Boaz? Sorry, you cannot. Why? Because God's people did not keep His Word.

**Jeremiah 52:17** Also the pillars of [bronze] that *were* in the house of the LORD...the Chaldeans brake, and carried all the [bronze] of them to Babylon.

**Jeremiah 44:23b** ...because ye have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD, nor walked in his law, nor in his statutes, nor in his testimonies; therefore this evil is happened unto you, as at this day.