**Healthy Church Life**

1 Timothy

***Guard the Gospel: Part 1 – Protect the Message***

(1 Timothy 1:1-11)

**Acts 20:29-31**

**29**I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; **30**and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. **31**Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears.

*Recognize the authority of the gospel* (vs. 1-2)

**Ephesians 2:19-20**

19So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,

**1 Corinthians 9:1**

Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord?

**2 Corinthians 12:12**

The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with utmost patience, with signs and wonders and mighty works.

*Do not get distracted from the goal of the gospel* (vs. 3-5)

***The qualities of love in a healthy disciple of Christ***

* Pure heart
* Good conscience
* Unhypocritical faith

*Retain the Law in the gospel* (vs. 6-11)

***God’s Law***

* God’s standard of holiness and righteous living (Romans 7:12)
* It requires internal and external adherence (Matthew 5:17-30)
* It reveals how sinful we are (Rom 3:20)
* It leads us to Christ for forgiveness (Galatians 3:23-27)