

Family: Roots, Restore, Revive – Week 5

| INTRODUCTION

This week we continued in our vision series Family: Roots, Restore, Revive. Since the beginning, God has been using the family to watch over His creation. Ever since the world fell, His mission has been to redeem his creation through the family. You could sum up all Scripture in this one statement, God gets His family back. This week we focused on how Scripture is the guide for our families.

| SCRIPTURE

¹¹ *Command and teach these things.* ¹² *Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but **set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.*** ¹³ *Until I come, **devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching.*** ¹⁴ *Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you.*

¹⁵ *Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress.* ¹⁶ ***Watch your life and doctrine** closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.*

1 Timothy 4:11-16

| TEACHING

One of the easiest things to do when it comes to Scripture is to read it and not live it. Sadly, it is possible to know God's truth but be far from His heart. When we read Scripture as an academic endeavor, or seek to gain religious knowledge from it, without pursuing a relationship with the God who wrote it we end up living far from God's heart. When we read Scripture, we must seek to live what we study. Rather than reading being an academic pursuit, it should be an exercise in love.

This is what Paul tells Timothy in 1 Timothy. Paul is advising Timothy as he seeks to lead the believers in Ephesus. Paul not only commands Timothy to read the Scriptures, but also tells him to be an example of love. We see that conduct and action are just as important as knowledge of the Scriptures. As we seek to know Scripture, we too must seek to love in all of our actions.

| REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. How have you viewed Scripture in the past? Has that changed over time?
2. Have you seen Scripture grow your intimacy with God?
3. How can you love through your learning?
4. How can Scripture help guide your family in this next season?