**Read 1 Timothy 3:14-4:5**

1. What did you learn from the sermon or Word Like Fire?

2. What was Paul's expressed purpose of writing to Timothy in advance of his potential future visit? How does 1 Timothy 1:5 help you understand this purpose?

3. In what ways does our society need the church to be the pillar and buttress of the truth, and what does your individual role in that look like?

4. Compare and contrast 1 Tim. 3:16 with 1 Tim. 4:1-3. What kinds of departures from the true gospel do you see as fulfillments of Paul's prophecy from the Holy Spirit?

5. What false teachings are causing damage within your sphere of influence and what could you do to help guide people back to the truth?

6. What spiritual attacks or distractions are unfolding against marriage or leading to an over-focus on rules about food? What is Paul's solution and how can you practice it?

7. How could you protect yourself from deceptions and distractions with more regular engagement in the word and prayer? How might this lead to greater thankfulness?

**Prayer Focus:** Let's pray that the our witness would be more empowered by the Holy Spirit through the word of God and prayer.