

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Speaker SP Daniel Foo opened his message by quoting from 1 Timothy 3:15-16.

The Church is the house of God. It is the Church of the living God. The Church is the pillar and ground of the truth. The Church confesses the Truth is the mystery of godliness.

The Glorious Church

1. Relationships

The Church is a community of people belonging to God. In other words, the Church is a family that belongs to God. In 1 Timothy, family dynamics are prominent. There are many needs within the family. The Church is a place where God's love covers a multitude of sins, and it is a place where we minister to one another in God's love.

There is a family leadership structure. The family's purpose is relational, which is a divine mandate, such as from husband and wife to parents and children.

A family is a place of refuge and encouragement. The family is also a safe place for discipline, education, instruction and nurture. When a family functions under the love of God, His love can cover a multitude of sins.

From within this family, we live out our various vocations in the world. A healthy Church will attract people in need. It is expected we can observe all kinds of people coming to Church. There is no such thing as a "homeless" Christian.

SP then elaborated on how BBTC is organised to facilitate a mentoring-discipling culture.

2. Reality

We are the Church of the Living God. We belong to the House of God. We are the family of God. God is at work in and among His people, which is us. SP emphasised the pillars of BBTC: anointed Worship, anointed Word & Altar, anointed Leaders & Body-life and anointed Ministries & Works of Faith.

The Lord Jesus is our Saviour. He lives in our hearts. The Heavenly Father-God dwells with us. We are the temple of the Holy Spirit.

This distinguishes a Church from every other human assembly. Without the presence of God, the Church is nothing but a self-help group, a mere social club. SP cited 1 Corinthians 12:7-10 as evidence of the presence of God.

3. Relevant

We represent the Truth. Our words, which is the Truth, are meant to sanctify the people around us. Therefore, it is very important to teaching the whole counsel of God. Revelation only comes through the Holy Spirit to those with seeking hearts, renewed minds.

SP emphasised the importance of teaching the whole counsel of God. We teach from the weight of the whole Bible, the Holy Scriptures. The Bible is meant to rebuke and to reprove. The Word of God is for correction, which means to put wrong behaviour to right. The Word of God is useful for training in righteousness.

In summary,

In Essentials - Unity, In Non-Essentials - Liberty, In All Things - Charity.

4. Representatives

We manifest God in the world (Mystery of Godliness). The truth of Christ that we proclaim must be personally experienced. When we continually stand upon the Word and experience God coming through for us, we will grow our faith and form deep convictions.

The mystery of Godliness is fundamentally Christ manifested in and through our lives. We then manifest God in our world, where we live.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we belong to the Family of God (John 13:34-35). We are the Church of the True and Living God. We represent the Truth (John 8:32) and we are to manifest God in the world (Mystery of Godliness).

QUESTIONS

1. The Church is the family of God. We learn to live in a community and submit to God's rules on family dynamics. As part of the family of God here in BBTC, share one truth about family dynamics that you have applied in your relationships with fellow believers in BBTC?

2. The Church is the church of the Living God. As we gather, whether for services, cell groups, training, mentoring or fellowship, God is present in our midst. How have you experienced the power of God in church gatherings?

3. The Church manifests Christ to the world around us. We do this by personally experiencing and living out the truth of Christ. What truths about Christ are you challenged to live out today?