

“Whose Is It?”

1 Tim. 3:14-15

Hi, I'm Crawford Loritts with a Legacy Moment.

Sometimes we forget to Whom the church belongs. A pastor friend tells how, when he first came to the church he pastored many years, he walked into one big, carnal mess. Through the years the church had been divided up into various committees, clubs, and other organizations, and each one of these groups seemed to have its own competing agenda. It took him years of preaching, praying, and conversations with leaders to bring the church back to where it really needed to be.

The church belongs to Jesus Christ. Often our views are conditioned and shaped by the experiences of wrong information. Sometimes people will even use the church as their surrogate sanctification: “I’m a member here. I’ll do whatever I want because I’m a part of this place.” We need to be called back to our heavenly identity and the awesome nature of the church.

In 1 Timothy chapter 3, verses 14 and 15, this perspective is underscored. Listen to these words; “I am writing these things to you hoping to come to you before long, but in case I am delayed I write so that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.”

In other words he says, “I want you to understand something. Redeemed human beings are members of the church, but the church does not belong to us. It belongs to God. The church is a visible representation and model of the truth. So our lives must be lived in conformity to God’s truth, and our behavior in the church must reflect the Owner of the church.”

Here’s what I want you to remember today. We are privileged, responsible members of God’s dynamic, living body, which is the extension of Himself in this fallen world.