Why study these letters?

We want to understand the role of the pastoral letters in the whole of the scriptures. And see what a pastor (Paul) wrote to pastors (Timothy and Titus) about the church.

Key theme throughout the letters:

Guard your life and doctrine closely

Two application questions to ask in each sermon:

1. How does this passage relate to THE Church?

What is the universal principle we should seek to apply in any church we belong to?

2. How does this passage relate to my church?

What is a specific way we might apply this at Wildwood now?

"Paul's first letter to Timothy emphasizes doctrine; his second letter to Timothy provides a strong emotional appeal. And Paul's letter to Titus brings a strong word of caution, a reminder that good deeds are to accompany our proclamation of truth and our defense of the gospel. The two letters to Timothy tell God's servant to protect and preach the gospel, while the letter to Titus tells God's servant to put into practice the gospel." -Chuck Swindoll

Titus 1:1-4

Writer

Paul

Receiver

Titus

Reason

To encourage Titus to connect truth and godliness in the church

"Truth and godliness must always go together." - Lee Gatiss

How can we, the people called Wildwood, learn and live?

Discussion Questions:

- 1. What do you already know about the Pastoral Epistles?
- 2. How did Paul view the purpose of his life and ministry? What do you think is unique to Paul and what might be applicable for any believer?
- 3. Why do you think that Paul refers to Titus as a "true child in a common faith?" What difference might it make in the way Titus received this letter?
- 4. What would you like to see God do in you and through you in this series? What would you like to see God do in our church and through our church in this series?