

Things That Go Bump In The Church

(2 Timothy 1:7)



- Introduction:
1. You won't have to talk to many people before you find some who are afraid of church.
 2. In this series, we will be looking at some of the reasons people give for being afraid of church, and hopefully dispel some of those fears.

I. People Are Afraid Because They Don't Know The Jargon & Lingo

- A. People often feel like outsiders in the church.
- B. Have you ever been the outside person on an "inside joke?"
- C. Those of us who have been Christian for a long time, take a lot for granted, especially with our vocabulary.
- D. The church has a "lingo," and if you're not "in the know," you're afraid to speak for fear of making a mistake.
- E. Several lingo issues:
 1. Incorrect Vocabulary:
 - a. Pastor, Reverend, Sanctuary, join the church, etc.
 2. Church Only Vocabulary:
 - a. Fruit of the vine, providentially hindered, ready recollection.
 3. Unfamiliar Vocabulary:
 - a. Hermeneutics, exegesis/eisegesis, agape, legalism/liberalism, acapella, autonomous, vicarious, christocentric, missional, Torah/Pentateuch, incarnation.
- F. (1 Corinthians 8:1; 9:22).

II. They Are Afraid Because They Don't Feel Good Enough

- A. Many feel they can't live up to the moral goodness of those in the church.
- B. They fail to realize that we all struggle with sin.
- C. We need to communicate to the world that we understand.
 1. We're not better than the world, but we are better off!
- D. (1 Timothy 1:15) Paul was the chief of sinners.
- E. (1 John 1:8-2:1; Romans 3:10,23; Isaiah 64:6).
- F. (2 Corinthians 2:6-8).

- Conclusion:
1. So you see, there are some things that "go bump in the church," and we need to do our best to identify these things in such a way they don't need to be feared.
 2. Are your fears keeping you from doing the right thing?
 3. Be strong and courageous and obey the Lord!