

PASSING THE
FAITH
To the Next Generation



Small Group Questions

Message: "Counterfeit Christianity"

Speaker: Pastor Bob

Series: *Passing the Faith*

Date: 5/3/26

Text: 2 Timothy 3:1-15

Questions:

1. The sermon opened with an AI-generated worship service that many people found meaningful. What does it tell us that so many couldn't tell the difference? What should we actually be looking for in a worship experience?
2. Paul lists "lovers of self" at the head of a long list of sins in vv. 2–4. What does disordered self-love actually look like in everyday life — not just in obvious sin?
3. The sermon described a "spiritual costume" — having the appearance of godliness without its power. In what ways can church culture actually reward wearing a costume rather than pursuing real transformation?
4. Paul commands us to "avoid" those who display these characteristics. How do we do that faithfully without becoming cold, judgmental, or closed off to people who need the Gospel?
5. Verses 6–7 describe people who are "always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth." Do you know anyone in that cycle? What makes genuine surrender so difficult in our culture?
6. Where do the people around you — friends, coworkers, neighbors — actually turn when life gets hard? How can you point them toward Jesus as the real answer to what they're seeking?
7. MBC is celebrating 175 years of passing the faith from one generation to the next. Who passed it to you, and who are you currently passing it on to?
8. Paul says plainly that "all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted" (v. 12). If your faith has cost you very little so far, what does that tell you?

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9. The story of Aimee Huber and First Choice Women's Resource Center illustrated costly, patient faithfulness under real cultural pressure. Where in your own life are you tempted to go quiet rather than pay the cost of standing firm?

10. The sermon closed with three questions: What do I love? What do I seek? What will it cost? Answer honestly — what is one concrete step you will take this week to move your faith from appearance to reality?



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