

# The Faith Script

**CPFI** Serving Christ and the World Through Pharmacy

Volume 33  
Issue 6  
2016

*Better is one day in your courts  
than a thousand elsewhere. Psalm 84:10(a)*

[Prayer Wall](#)

ITCHING EARS SYNDROME? One of my favorite Bible passages comes from 2 Timothy, Chapter 4. In both of his letters to Timothy, the apostle Paul wrote about how Timothy and church leaders should carry out their responsibilities in shepherding those they serve in Christ's name. In 2 Timothy 4:2 (NIV), he gives Timothy, as a leader in the church, one of many charges, "2. *Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage - with great patience and careful instruction.*" I think this applies to all of us who play leadership roles in the church AND in society. Pharmacists are in a position to witness to those we serve - our advice is well respected in the community. Today there are many issues that secular society is trying to have redefined in ways that violate Christian principles. In Paul's day, Christians had to deal with this as well, although society already had defined these issues before the beginning of the Christian church's beliefs. Christians had an uphill battle to change people's hearts toward an understanding of what God expects from them and what society tells them. It was for this reason that Paul went on in 2 Timothy 4:3-5 to explain some of the difficulty that leaders in the church would face- "3. *For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. 5. But you keep your head in all situations; endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.*"

Many leaders in today's organized church are part of the chorus that "is saying what their itching ears want to hear," which means leading the church to become "synchronistic" with society's view of certain issues in opposition to Biblical truths. The Bible is being redefined as the "inspired word of God," which is significantly different than the traditional understanding that it is the "infallible" word of God. Redefining the Bible as "inspired" probably sounds good, but it implies that there may be errors in it. This approach allows the church to pick and choose what is now considered part of God's word and what is not. Nothing makes this clearer than the trend in the church to discount the Bible's numerous references that teach that marriage is between one man and one woman and that homosexual behavior and sex outside of marriage is sinful. But Paul says that "saying what your itching ears want to hear" does not make it so and Christian leaders must "be prepared in season and out of season to correct, rebuke and encourage-with great patience and careful instruction"!

How are we doing? Are we as leaders "correcting, rebuking, encouraging"? Or are we falling in line with secular society and changing what the Bible teaches? With all of the pressure we face to embrace these "progressive" ideas, living out our God given Biblical instructions is becoming more and more difficult. I pray that all of us will, find ways to follow Paul's charge to Timothy and resist the temptation to acquiesce to the "itching ears syndrome"!

Eugene (Gene) Lutz  
CPFI Board member/vice president  
Altoona, IA

[Outreach Opportunities](#)

[Join or Renew Membership](#)

[NSC Spring Newsletter](#)

## SAVE THE DATE

**CPFI 2017 Annual Conference & National Student Retreat**  
Glen Eyrie Conference Center  
Colorado Springs, Colorado  
Student Retreat: **June 14 to 18, 2017**  
Annual Conference: **June 15 to 18, 2017**



**POWER HOUR**

Will you give 1 hour each month to CPFI?

To learn more about the Power Hour Gift Group [click here](#).

[Join Power Hour Gift Group](#)

**Join The 1% Group today**

Join a growing group of CPFI members who have answered a call to support CPFI by becoming a member of The 1% Group.

[Learn more and join The 1% Group](#)

**Your support is needed**

CPFI needs your continued support this year and in the coming year. Please consider giving a gift or a monthly gift to help our organization meet its operational and ministry expenses. Your gift may be made by electronic check or credit card by clicking on the link to the right, or by mailing your gift to the CPFI office: CPFI, P.O. Box 1154, Bristol, TN, 37621-1154, or by calling toll free: (888) 253-6885.

[Give a gift to CPFI](#)

**2015-2016 CPFI Leadership Team**

[Officers Board](#)

**CHRISTIAN PHARMACISTS FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL**

P.O. Box 1154, Bristol, TN 37621-1154

Email: [office@cpfi.org](mailto:office@cpfi.org) Toll free: 888-253-6885