



# A DESIRABLE EXAMPLE FOR BELIEVERS TO EMULATE

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**HOMILY DELIVERED DURING SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE AT CHURCH OF CHRIST #5 OWERRI STREET HIGH LEVEL MAKURDI DATED 26TH OCTOBER, 2025.**

**BY BROTHER ICHA INNOCENT (BISHOP)**

**THEME: LIVING A PRACTICAL CHRISTIAN LIFE WORTH EMULATING**

**TOPIC: A DESIRABLE EXAMPLE FOR BELIEVERS TO EMULATE**

**TEXT: 1 TIMOTHY 4:12**

## **INTRODUCTION**

**Why Example? Because our lives are a reflection of our faith, and others are watching.**

**Who Should Be An Example? Every believer, regardless of age, position, or status (1 Tim. 4:12).**

**But what is Example? A model, sample, pattern – an object or action that guides others.**

## **MESSAGE DELIVERY**

### **A. TEXTUAL READING AND EXERCISES 1 TIMOTHY 4:12**

**"Let no one despise you because you are young, but be an example to the believers in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity."**

**Who is Timothy?**

**Timothy was a young Christian leader and a close companion of the Apostle Paul. He was from Lystra, a city in modern-day Turkey, and his mother was a Jewish Christian named Eunice, while his father was a Greek.**

**Timothy was converted to Christianity through Paul's ministry and became one of his most trusted associates. He**

**accompanied Paul on his missionary journeys and was often sent by Paul to lead and encourage churches.**

**The Apostle Paul wrote two epistles (letters) to Timothy, known as 1 Timothy and 2 Timothy, which are part of the New Testament. These letters provide guidance on leadership, doctrine, and personal conduct, and offer insights into Timothy's role and challenges as a young Christian leader.**

**Timothy is remembered for his:**

- Faith and commitment to Christ**
- Loyalty and dedication to Paul's ministry**
- Leadership and service in the early Christian church**
- Example of a young believer living out his faith in a challenging context.**

## **B. THE EXAMPLES A BELIEVERS SHOULD DEMONSTRATE**

### **1. SPEECH: Edifying and gracious communication**

**I. Edifying language: Speech that builds up and encourages others (Ephesians 4:29).**

**II. Gracious communication: Words that are kind, gentle, and considerate (Colossians 4:6).**

**III. Truthful speech: Honest and transparent communication (Ephesians 4:15).**

**IV. Positive words: Language that uplifts and inspires others (Philippians 4:8).**

**V. Wise speech: Words that are thoughtful, discerning, and beneficial (Proverbs 15:1-2).**

**Christians should avoid:**

**I. Corrupt speech: Language that is foul, abusive, or hurtful (Ephesians 4:29).**

**II. Gossip and slander: Words that harm others' reputations or relationships (Proverbs 11:13, 16:28).**

**III. Lying and deception: False or misleading speech (Proverbs 12:22, Ephesians 4:25).**

**IV. Empty talk: Speech that is meaningless, boastful, or divisive (Matthew 12:36-37, 2 Timothy 2:16-18).**

## **2. CONDUCT: Godly behavior and integrity expected of believers:**

### **Personal Conduct**

**I. Purity: Living a life of moral purity, avoiding sexual immorality (1 Thessalonians 4:7, 1 Corinthians 6:18-20).**

**II. Integrity: Being honest, trustworthy, and transparent in all dealings (Proverbs 10:9, 2 Corinthians 8:21).**

**III. Humility: Cultivating a humble attitude, avoiding pride and arrogance (Philippians 2:3-4, 1 Peter 5:5-6).**

**IV. Self-control: Exercising self-discipline and moderation in all aspects of life (1 Corinthians 9:24-27, Titus 2:11-14).**

### **Relationships**

**I. Love: Demonstrating love, compassion, and kindness to others (John 13:34-35, 1 Corinthians 13:1-3).**

**II. Respect: Showing respect and submission to authorities, elders, and one another (Romans 13:1-2, Ephesians 5:21-33).**

**III. Forgiveness: Practicing forgiveness, mercy, and reconciliation (Matthew 6:14-15, Ephesians 4:32).**

**IV. Honesty: Being truthful and transparent in relationships (Ephesians 4:25, Colossians 3:9).**

### **Social Conduct**

**I. Compassion: Showing concern and care for the poor, needy, and marginalized (Matthew 25:31-46, James 1:27).**

**II. Justice:** Advocating for justice, fairness, and equality (Micah 6:8, Isaiah 1:17).

**III. Witness:** Living a life that honors God and shares the gospel with others (Matthew 5:16, 1 Peter 2:12).

**IV. Stewardship:** Managing resources, time, and talents wisely and responsibly (Matthew 25:14-30, 1 Corinthians 4:2).

### **Spiritual Conduct**

**I. Worship:** Cultivating a heart of worship, devotion, and obedience to God (John 4:23-24, Romans 12:1-2).

**II. Prayer:** Practicing prayer, thanksgiving, and dependence on God (1 Thessalonians 5:17, Philippians 4:6-7).

**III. Bible Study:** Pursuing biblical knowledge, understanding, and application (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Psalm 119:105).

**IV. Community:** Participating in Christian community, fellowship, and service (Hebrews 10:24-25, Acts 2:42-47).

**3. LOVE:** Demonstrating God's love to others. The foundation of Christian faith

**4. FAITH:** Trusting and obeying God. The vein of Christian practice.

**5. PURITY:** Living a life of moral purity. Holiness. Hebrews 12:14

**[14]Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:**

### **CONCLUSION**

#### **BE A DRESSING MIRRORS TO OTHERS**

**2 Corinthians 3:2-3**

**[2]Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:**

**[3]Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.**

**Our lives are reflected in those around us, influencing them for good or ill. Let's be intentional about demonstrating Christ-like examples, inspiring others to follow Him.**

### **MEMORY VERSE**

**2 Cor. 3:2**

**[2]Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:**