



A DESIRABLE EXAMPLE FOR BELIEVERS TO EMULATE

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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: