







A Noble Servant's Focus for Ministry: A Godly Example

1 Timothy 4:12



Six ministry essentials that help us maintain a godly focus in our service in the life of our church:

I. A biblical focus on pure doctrine (1 Tim. 4:11) II. A biblical focus on being a godly example (1 Tim. 4:12)

"Let no one look down on your youthfulness..."

• This is in the form of a command: Let no one despise, disregard, or think little of your *neotetos* (youth).

One of the issues of church life carrying over from ancient times is that a lack of integrity brings a lack of credibility in ministry.

- sons?

through issues of our salvation and our lives?

The church family needs sober-minded men who approach life and ministry from a growing fear of the Lord.

- Who we want and trust to be around our wives, our daughters, and our
- What kind of men do we need, and need to trust, to help us work

church?

How does a pastor not succumb to all the worldy hype and man-centered expectations heaped on him from those who see the church as a playground, as just another entertainment venue to help distract them from reality?

II. A biblical focus on being a godly example (1 Tim. 4:12) How does a pastor today stay faithful to Jesus and His agenda for His

example of those who believe."

We are to answer critics primarily with our godly life. Paul highlights five areas of being a godly example.

II. A biblical focus on being a godly example (1 Tim. 4:12)

"...but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity, show yourself an





example of those who believe."

Speech: words (communication)

"...but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity, show yourself an

• Ephesians 4:15, 25, 29; Colossians 3:8-10

• "The one who guards his mouth, preserves his life." (Prov. 13:3)

• "When there are many words, transgression is unavoidable." (Prov. 10:19)



example of those who believe."

Conduct: actions (deeds)

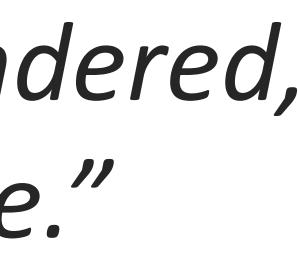
- What is your lifestyle like? Not just your Sunday morning life, but your Monday, Tuesday,... etc., life? What can people expect from you on a consistent basis?
- The most important evidence of your verbal profession of faith is your daily progression of faith.
- (1 Pet. 3:16)

- "...but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity, show yourself an

• "Keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame."







example of those who believe."

Love: selfless investment in others for their well-being

• "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

 "This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his *friends."* (John 15:12-13)

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Faith, or the quality of being faithful

• "Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct *imitate* their faith." (Heb. 13:7)

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Purity: primarily a reference to sexual purity. Our church life stands or falls on our commitment to holiness.





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