



A Biblical Focus for Faithful Service

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)

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*“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).

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

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.

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

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 church?

How does a pastor **not succumb** to all the **worldly 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)

*“...but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity, **show yourself an 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)

- Ephesians 4:15, 25, 29; Colossians 3:8-10
- *“When there are many words, transgression is **unavoidable**.”* (Prov. 10:19)
- *“The one who **guards** his mouth, preserves his life.”* (Prov. 13:3)

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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.
- *“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.”*
(1 Pet. 3:16)

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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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