



A Biblical Focus for Faithful Service

**A Noble Servant's Focus for Ministry:
Biblical Ministry as a Lifestyle
[Part 2]**

1 Timothy 4:14-16

1 Timothy 4:11-16

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

- I. Carefully teaching **pure doctrine** (1 Tim. 4:11)
- II. Overcoming challenges through **godly example** (1 Tim. 4:12)
- III. Devoting himself to **church ministry** (1 Tim. 4:13)
- IV. A biblical focus on doing **God's work God's way** (1 Tim. 3:14)

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*“Do not **neglect** the spiritual gift within you...”*

Neglect (*ameleō*): present tense imperative.

Do not be careless... Do not disregard...

Keep a **spiritual perspective** crystal clear in your heart as you minister God's Word to God's people.

IV. A biblical focus on doing **God's work God's way** (1 Tim. 4:14)

*“Do not neglect the **spiritual gift within you...**”*

God gives each one of us at least one spiritual gift for the purpose of making us **spiritually beneficial** to one another and to God.

*“...which was **bestowed upon you** through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery.”*

V. A biblical focus on laboring **on behalf of God (1 Tim. 4:15)**

*“Take pains with **these things**; be absorbed in them...”*

*“**These things**” = the truths being taught here.*

*“**Take pains with these things; be absorbed in them...**”* This says something of the cost involved in ministering God’s truth in **biblical** ministry—the nature of the work exacts a high price from faithful servants committed to serving God.

V. A biblical focus on laboring **on behalf of God** (1 Tim. 4:15)

*“Take pains with **these things**; be absorbed in them...”*

*“**Take pains with** = plan, think through, prepare in a thorough manner, be prepared to suffer and to pay the cost of faithfulness with these things.*

*“**be absorbed...**” is literally, “be in them.” It is a phrase that emphasizes being totally **engulfed** or **consumed**. Focus, devotion, courage, unwavering commitment.*

V. A biblical focus on laboring **on behalf of God** (1 Tim. 4:15)

“...so that your progress may be evident to all.”

“**So that**” points us to the **purpose** of our focus, devotion, hard work, and commitment.

“**Progress**” could also be translated “**advancement**.” This refers to credibility, competency, growth, or maturity in spiritual things—things worthy of our respect/esteem.

“**Evident**” means something that is **plainly** recognized—something **clearly** seen and known. Your focus, devotion, commitment, and hard work in ministry will directly bear on your testimony: does your walk match your talk? Are you showing Jesus in your lifestyle and in your faithful commitment to serve the church family?

V. A biblical focus on laboring **on behalf of God (1 Tim. 4:15)**

“...so that your progress may be evident to all.”

Your **“progress” in the faith** stands to be a way that God inspires others to grow in their faith.

VI. A biblical focus on living and serving as God's **steward** (1 Tim. 4:16)

“...Pay close attention to yourself...”

Stewardship of lifestyle. Watch your life.

“...and to your teaching, ...”

Stewardship of ministry. Watch your ministry.

“...persevere in these things...”

Give yourself to this pursuit. Stay at it, continue, and remain at your post.

VI. A biblical focus on living and serving as God's **steward** (1 Tim. 4:16)

*"...**for as you do this** you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you."*

People cannot be saved from sin apart from the truth of God.

Timothy was **to live and to minister** God's truth **so that** he and others could live in right relationship with God.

Sharing in a biblical focus for service in the church **brings us together** to support and emphasize God's essentials for *being* the church.

These six ministry essentials **help us practically express** our love for the Lord and for one another.

A biblical focus on:

- I. **Pure doctrine** (1 Tim. 4:11)
- II. **Being a godly example** (1 Tim. 4:12)
- III. **Church ministry** (1 Tim. 4:13)
- IV. **Doing God's work God's way** (1 Tim. 3:14)
- V. **Laboring on behalf of God** (1 Tim. 3:15)
- VI. **Living and serving as God's steward** (1 Tim. 3:16)

“As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Whoever speaks, let him speak, as it were, the utterances of God; whoever serves, let him do so as by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.” (1 Peter 4:10-11)

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