

Spring 2016 Gospel Meeting
"Evangelism"

EVANGELISM THROUGH EXAMPLE

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- 1. We have been given the huge responsibility of spreading the gospel to all nations, **Mark 16:15**
- 2. While the words we speak in proclaiming the gospel are extremely important, we cannot underestimate the impact that our behavior has in helping solidify the message we preach.
- 3. We have been called to set an example, and our example can either help or hinder our work of evangelizing.

I. THE WORDS USED IN THE NT

- A. There are several words in the New Testament that are translated as "example," "pattern," "model," or "copy"
 - 1. The Greek word *hupodeigma* (hoop-od'-igee-mah)
 - a. The word means "an example: for imitation, for a warning: a thing to be shunned."
 - 1) **John 13:15** – an example to follow
 - 2) **Hebrews 4:11** – an example not to follow

I. THE WORDS USED IN THE NT

- A. There are several words in the New Testament that are translated as "example," "pattern," "model," or "copy"
 - 2. The Greek word *deigma* (digh-mah)
 - a. This word means "a thing shown, a specimen"
 - - **Jude 7** – a warning set forth

I. THE WORDS USED IN THE NT

- A. There are several words in the New Testament that are translated as "example," "pattern," "model," or "copy"
 - 3. The Greek word *hupotuposis* (hoop-ot-ooop-o-sis)
 - a. The word means "an example of those who should hereafter believe; a pattern"
 - 1) Paul would be a pattern in his conversion – **1 Timothy 1:16**
 - 2) Timothy should keep the pattern of words spoken – **2 Timothy 1:13**

I. THE WORDS USED IN THE NT

- A. There are several words in the New Testament that are translated as "example," "pattern," "model," or "copy"
 - 4. The Greek word *tupos* (too-pos)
 - a. The word means "a figure formed by a blow or impression ... an example to be imitated ... a pattern of warning."
 - 1) **1 Corinthians 10:6** – a warning
 - 2) **Titus 2:7** – a pattern to follow

I. THE WORDS USED IN THE NT

- A. There are several words in the New Testament that are translated as "example," "pattern," "model," or "copy"
 - 5. The Greek word *mimomai* (*mim-eh-om-ah-ee*)
 - a. The word means "to imitate, emulate an example"
 - 1) **Hebrews 13:7** – imitate the example of faithful brethren

I. THE WORDS USED IN THE NT

- A. There are several words in the New Testament that are translated as "example," "pattern," "model," or "copy"
 - 6. The Greek word *summimetes* (*soom-mim-ay-tace*)
 - a. This word means "a fellow imitator," "to render like"
 - – **Philippians 3:17** – follow the example

II. WE ARE TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLES IN THE WORD OF GOD

- A. THE LORD JESUS CHRIST
 - 1. He was the example the apostle Paul followed – **1 Corinthians 11:1**
 - 2. He should be our example as well
 - a. On how to please one another – **Romans 15:1-3**
 - b. On how to love one another – **Ephesians 5:1-2**
 - c. On how to look out for one another – **Philippians 2:4-5**
 - d. On how to suffer patiently when mistreated – **1 Peter 2:20-23**

II. WE ARE TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLES IN THE WORD OF GOD

- B. THE APOSTLE PAUL
 - 1. He urged the Corinthians to follow his lead – **1 Corinthians 4:6; 11:1**
 - a. To give no offense – **1 Corinthians 10:32**
 - b. To seek the benefit of others – **1 Corinthians 10:33**

II. WE ARE TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLES IN THE WORD OF GOD

- B. THE APOSTLE PAUL
 - 2. He urged the Philippians to follow his example – **Philippians 3:17; 4:9**
 - a. To press on to maturity – **Philippians 3:13-15**
 - b. To live according to the level they have learned – **Philippians 3:16**

II. WE ARE TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLES IN THE WORD OF GOD

- B. THE APOSTLE PAUL
 - 3. He praised the Thessalonians for imitating him.
 - a. For receiving the Word despite affliction – **1 Thessalonians 1:6**
 - b. To avoid being a burden to others – **2 Thessalonians 3:7-10**

II. WE ARE TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLES IN THE WORD OF GOD

▪ C. FAITHFUL CHRISTIANS

- 1. Paul exhorted the Philippians to note those walking as he did – **Philippians 3:17**
- 2. The writer of the Hebrew letter encourages taking note of examples given by faithful Christians
 - a. To imitate the faith and patience of those who inherit the promises – **Hebrews 6:11-12**
 - b. To follow the faith of those who rule over us – **Hebrews 13:7**

III. WE ARE TO SET A GOOD EXAMPLE TO THOSE IN THE WORLD

- A. We are admonished to live worthy of the gospel, **Philippians 1:27**
 - – We are called by the gospel and must walk worthy of that calling, **Ephesians 4:1; (Colossians 1:10; 1 Thessalonians 2:10-12; cf. 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12; 1 Corinthians 9:25-27)**

III. WE ARE TO SET A GOOD EXAMPLE TO THOSE IN THE WORLD

- B. Christ states we are the light and salt of the earth, **Matthew 5:13-15**
 - - Our deeds help illuminate and give flavor to the world. If the example we set is not worthy of the gospel, how can we persuade others to believe and obey?
- C. Timothy and Titus were to be examples of those who believe, **1 Timothy 4:12; Titus 2:7**

III. WE ARE TO SET A GOOD EXAMPLE TO THOSE IN THE WORLD

- D. Our example can lead others to God, **1 Peter 3:1-2 (Matthew 5:16; Colossians 4:3-5)**
 - – Our conduct will help strengthen our efforts in preaching the gospel, for people will see that we practice what we preach.

III. WE ARE TO SET A GOOD EXAMPLE TO THOSE IN THE WORLD

- E. Our good example will disarm those who oppose the gospel, **1 Peter 2:12; 3:16; Titus 2:8**
- F. Our poor example can lead some to blaspheme the word of God, **Romans 2:17-24**

CONCLUSION

- 1. The scriptures are filled with good examples for us to emulate.
- 2. While we proclaim God's word to the world, let us ensure that we are setting the proper example to those outside of God's family.
- 3. Our preaching of the gospel is helped when people see that we are living worthy of the good news.
- 4. Our preaching is negatively impacted when what we practice does not match what we preach.