

BE AN EXAMPLE

Lesson #1 -In Word

Scripture Reading: James 3:6-12

Introduction:

1. In 1Timothy 4:12, Paul list five areas we should strive to set a good example in.
2. We must put careful thought into the words we choose to speak.
3. Before we speak, we must consider our speech in regards to...

I. OUR TEACHING

A. PRESENTATION OF THE GOSPEL

1. Let the Bible speak -2Ti 4:2, 1Co 9:16, 1Pe 4:11
 - a. Power to communicate -2Ti 3:16, 17; Is 55:10, 11
 - b. Power to save -Ro 1:16
 - c. Power to evaluate -He 4:12
 - d. Power to understand -2Ti 2:15, Ep 3:4
2. Preaching Jesus and Him crucified -1Co 2:2
3. Avoid criticism of the other's faith -E.g. Riot at Ephesus -Ac 19:37

B. HANDLING CRITISM

1. Respond with grace -Co 4:6, Pr 15:28, Ep 4:29
2. Looking to the example of Jesus
 - a. He did not threaten in return -1Pe 2:22, 23
 - b. He spoke from the Scriptures -Lk 20:27-40, Mt 4:1-11

II. OUR DAILY COMMUNICATION

A. COMMUNICATION TO REFRAIN FROM

1. Cursing and swearing
 - a. No corrupt word is to proceed from our mouths -Ep 4:29
 - b. We are not curse man -Ja 3:8-12
 - c. Bad language is not fitting for Christian (a disciple of Christ) -Peter's example -Mt 26:73, 74
2. Slandorous tongue
 - a. This comes from an evil heart -Lk 6:45
 - b. It is the characteristic of the hypocrite -Pr 11:9
 - c. It is the characteristic of the devil -Re 12:10
 - d. We will be judged by our words -Mt 12:36, 37

B. CHARACTERISTICS OF GOOD COMMUNICATION

1. Paul's instructions to Titus -Ti 2:6-8
 - a. Sound speech -concerns teaching along with casual conversation.
 - b. This had to be accompanied by righteous living; then no one can condemn
2. Peter's instructions -1Pe 3:10
 - a. To see good days one must keep their tongue in check
 - b. Keep our tongue from telling lies. Tongue can create a web of lies hard to untangle.

Conclusion:

1. Other people are always watching us and listening to us.
2. We therefore must always be mindful of our example. It will cause others to want to become Christians themselves, or it will drive them away.