

Set An Example Part 2

“3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.” (2 Timothy 2:3-4 KJV)

The foundation of service and ministry sprout out from a good base that composed of God’s Word, faith, and the willingness to abide in the followings:-

1. Willingness to endure hardness: *“3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.” (2 Timothy 2:3 KJV)* Many they want to serve but they don’t want to suffer. But there is no service without a cost or suffering. The life of a soldier is a life of high discipline, away from pleasures and worldliness. And as he pursue in this way then he found himself well adopted and comforted with the set up. **You are called to focus on what is available in your hand and do what you are called to do for God, even if there is hardship and suffering that God had allowed in your way, you still need to go through it and overcome.**

2. Willingness to separate from civilian affairs: *“4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.” (2 Timothy 2:4 KJV)* * Civilian affairs are the temptations that pull the workers from serving the Lord. Jealousy, fights, quarrels, arguments, love of money, selfish ambition and worldly plans, parties, pleasures, worldly celebrations, watching and wasting time on the Media and the like are civilian affairs and are the pulling factors that will take you away from serving the Lord. * You are called to please Christ your master and serve Him wholeheartedly. Avoiding civilian affairs or the affairs of this life will build in you character and personality that is able to endure hardships and trials.

Timothy is a good example that really responded to the call of God. He cherished the Word of God and the teaching that he received in his family from his mother and grandmother and cherished the training that the church and Paul gave to him.

Paul met Timothy in this way: *“1 Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek: 2 Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium. 3 Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek. 4 And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem. 5 And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.” (Acts 16:1-5 KJV)* From this passage about Timothy, and how he found himself with Paul serving the Lord, we can conclude the following points about setting a good example.

1. Good reputation: Timothy had good reputation, *“2 Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium.” (Acts 16:2 KJV)* **Good report about you based on your good deeds for the Lord is needed. But put in your mind if people hate you because you oppose their wrong doings and standing with the Lord then this also a good reputation.**

2. Willingness to be circumcised: Timothy was willing to be circumcised: *“15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.” (Galatians 6:15)* For us not the physical circumcision is needed but the spiritual one; the circumcision of the heart unto the Lord, *“4 Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your heart, ye men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem: lest my fury come forth like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.” (Jeremiah 4:4 KJV)* *“29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.” (Romans 2:29 KJV)* Timothy was even willing to be circumcised physically to spare Paul the criticism of the Jews. **There are certain times things you need to suffer, and to deprive yourself of certain things and rights so that the message would go forward. You need to be mature and act responsibly,** for *“11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:” (Colossians 2:11 KJV)*

3. Willingness to obey the one who trained you: Timothy was in full harmony with Paul, and he obeyed him willingly and that is why Paul considered Timothy his true son in faith, as we can read, *“2 To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.” (1 Timothy 1:2 KJV)* *“2 To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.” (2 Timothy 1:2 KJV)* Paul considered Timothy a spiritual son and Timothy obeyed and abided with Paul for the sake of the gospel to be spread. Timothy realized and accepted His responsibility toward God when he decided to obey the instructions of Paul in order for God’s message to spread. **The same for you, you need to abide with us and the teaching we pass unto you so the message will be spread.**

4. Willingness to travel and go along the plan of Paul: *“4 And as they went through the cities, ...” (Acts 16:4 KJV)* Timothy sure had his own plan and set up but he put it aside and was willing to abide with the plan of Paul who was doing and executing God’s plan. **If you want to serve God then you need to put out of your mind tourist trips and vacations because these are temptations that will take you away from serving the Lord. Moving or travelling to reach the lost entail suffering, spending, enduring and commitment that you need to be ready to achieve for God.**

5. Your active participation is valid way for you to declare your agreement with the message: *“4 And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem.” (Acts 16:4 KJV)* Timothy moved with Paul and the rest of the men with him. **When you take an active part in the ministry you are saying indirectly to others that you are in full agreement with the vision of the church and God’s work in His church. Therefore take part in God’s service so that you will set a good example to others to follow and obey.** Timothy went along Paul in his second missionary journey to various places; to Phrygia, Galatia, Mysia, Troas, Macedonia, then Philippi where the church of Philippi planted: *“6 Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia, 7 After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not. 8 And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas. 9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us. 10 And after he had seen the vision, immediately*

we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them. 11 Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis; 12 And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days.” (Acts 16:6-12 KJV) From Philippi Paul went to Thessalonica and then to Berea; Timothy and Silas were with him, “1 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews: 2 And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, 3 Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ. 4 And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few. 5 But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. 6 And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also; 7 Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, one Jesus. 8 And they troubled the people and the rulers of the city, when they heard these things. 9 And when they had taken security of Jason, and of the other, they let them go. 10 And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. 11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. 12 Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few. 13 But when the Jews of Thessalonica had knowledge that the word of God was preached of Paul at Berea, they came thither also, and stirred up the people. 14 And then immediately the brethren sent away Paul to go as it were to the sea: but Silas and Timotheus abode there still. 15 And they that conducted Paul brought him unto Athens: and receiving a commandment unto Silas and Timotheus for to come to him with all speed, they departed.” (Acts 17:1-15 KJV) Silas and Timothy they did not go with Paul to Athens but were able to join Paul in Corinth, “1 After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth; 2 And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them. 3 And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers. 4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks. 5 And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ.” (Acts 18:1-5 KJV) Paul was able to be freed from his secular job when Timothy and Silas rejoined him in Corinth. Timothy and Silas persevered and were able to overcome obstacles to be with Paul wherever he went. Timothy was of great benefit to Paul and was so needed because later on when Paul was not able to reach to certain places Timothy was sent instead of Paul. And that what had happened when Paul was not able to reach the church in Thessalonica so he found himself sending Timothy to them as we can read here: “17 But we, brethren, being taken from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavoured the more abundantly to see your face with great desire. 18 Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us. 19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming? 20 For ye are our glory and joy. 1 Wherefore when we could no longer forbear, we thought

it good to be left at Athens alone; 2 And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith: 3 That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto. 4 For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know. 5 For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain. 6 But now when Timotheus came from you unto us, and brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, and that ye have good remembrance of us always, desiring greatly to see us, as we also to see you:” (1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:6 KJV)

6. Churches and ministries will be strengthened as you set good example to them to follow: “5 And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.” (Acts 16:5 KJV)

My dear and Beloved: Until this day churches and ministries are strengthened with the good example of Timothy and how he faithfully abided with God’s call as he abided with the ministry of his leader, Paul. **God calling you today to abide with His Word and to set a good example to others to follow as you agree to abide.** Let us pray ...

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the Cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word and the teaching that showing me what you expect from me to see; to be a good example to others to follow. Lord thank you for all the good things that we had received from you. Lord thank you for all the corrections, the rebukes and the admonishments we received in this message.

Repent and renounce all your sins. Renounce your lack of discipline and lack of commitment. Repent and renounce all the works of the flesh in your life. Repent of jealousy, fights, quarrels, arguments, love of money, selfish ambition and worldly plans, parties, pleasures, worldly celebrations, watching and wasting time on the Media. Repent of doing you own will and plan and not the will nor the plan of God in your life. Repent of setting bad example to others. Repent of your unfaithfulness toward those who taught you the Word of God and trained you to serve Him. Repent of your lack of concern to others and your non willingness to suffer. Repent of your non willingness to serve God, travel and do the mission works. Repent of your lack of prayers and reading God’s Word. Renounce your bad stewardship, your worldliness, and your love for the world and material things. Lord I repent, forgive me, I renounce the following sins

Lord I commit my life fully into your hand. Lord I commit myself to live in holiness. Lord takes me according to your will where you want me to go. Lord I surrender my life and will in full to you. Lord I am willing to serve you and I am willing to do the mission works and suffer for your cause. Lord let the Word of yours in this message come true in my life, this is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented of their sins and returned to you and are willing to serve you and doing your will and your plan in their lives. Lord use them in the mission works of the church and set them good examples to others to follow you. Lord help them, protect them and continue to provide for them to continue to serve you.

Lord bless us as a church and help us to continue to go and serve you in doing the works and the ministry that you entrusted to us to do. Lord add to us more workers and those who are willing to go and serve you and suffer for your cause and purpose. Lord we commit ourselves to live in holiness, away from sin, to reproduce more fruit of the Holy Spirit and to set good example to others. Lord refill us once again with your Holy Spirit, and with your love so that we can go forward and do the mission work that you entrusted us to do. Lord lead us to evangelize and reach new people and serve them, and make new disciples and train new workers, planting new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God'. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf
The Church Overseer
Church of God
United Arab Emirates
www.churchofgoduae.com
Email: thebread1@gmail.com
Mobile Tel #: [00971551902647](tel:00971551902647)

Note: The Bread of Life is a weekly publication from the Church of God, United Arab Emirates. For further issues and more spiritual enrichment you can visit our web site at: www.churchofgoduae.com.

Share the message with your friends.

Please share with us your view about the message and if you have any question.

If you have a prayer request, please send it to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.

Please send your tithes, your first fruit, and your various offerings to the church to this account

BANK NAME:
First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB)
ACCOUNT NAME:
RAMIZ BAHNAM ABBO KHALAF
ACCOUNT NO.:
1576003753162014
IBAN:
AE380351576003753162014
SWIFT CODE:
NBADAEACPU

Or contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.

If you need counseling in area of your life, whether about family, children or finances, please be free to contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.