

Set An Example Part 3

“16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16 KJV)

Being a good example is a visual aid to others to see God and recognize Jesus and His Word clearly in your life. In Titus 2:7-8 we can read the following: *“7 In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, 8 Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.”* Paul said to Titus the following:

1. *“In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works:”* To show a pattern is to set an example to others, and this will only be possible when you do what is good, right and just.
2. *“in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, 8 Sound speech, that cannot be condemned;”* that means in your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned. That means what you say is that what you need to do. You must act the word that you speak and that is integrity and incorruptness. You need also to be serious and describe clearly what you are planning and going to do and this is gravity. In this way you will be eliminating from your field and from the area surround you those who are trying to oppose you and accuse you.

You are called to set good example to others in the following aspects:

A. Work: “6 Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us. 7 For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you; 8 Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you: 9 Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us. 10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.” (2 Thessalonians 3:6-10) You will set good example to others when you observe the following:

1. *Being diligent and not idle: “9 He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.” (Proverbs 18:9 KJV)* You should not linger, postpone or refuse to do what is asked from you to do.
2. *Do not take advantage of others:* People paying for you, serving you, doing for you your ministry, and you do not like to do your part, all that is taking advantage. Repent of such!
3. *Do not be a burden:* Do not cause troubles to others. Do not allow your style of life and living will cause troubles or hardships to others.
4. *Work hard, labour and toil to solve and overcome your problems, to provide for yourself, to be prepared to face trials and to coop with the coming excessive demands and needs: “30 I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding; 31 And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and*

the stone wall thereof was broken down. 32 Then I saw, and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction. 33 Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: 34 So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man.” (Proverbs 24:30-34 KJV) Weed and thorns you have to remove so you can plant and be able to feed yourselves and live. Walls need to be repaired so that thieves and problems from outside will not come into your life and cause others to suffer with you.

B. Suffering: “21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: 22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: 23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously.” (1 Peter 2:21-23 KJV) (1 Peter 2:21-23) Suffering is one of the things that God allows and ordains for us to pass through. From the above scripture about Christ suffering, you will set good example to others when you observe the following in your suffering:

1. *Don't sin: “Who did no sin,”* Christ when He was hanged on the cross did not sin. Therefore you need to control yourself and to continue to live in holiness while you are passing through trials. Sin should not rule over your life.
2. *Don't speak bad: “neither was guile found in his mouth.”* Christ when He was hanged on the cross did not speak bad words to those who crucified Him. Therefore keep your heart clean and pure toward those who harmed you and toward everyone. Control also your mouth and do not utter any bad word to those who harm you. You may describe to them what they did but do not use bad words and keep your heart clean and in such you follow Christ's example.
3. *Don't retaliate and threaten others: “when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not.”* Christ when He was on the cross, even He is God, did not threaten people with His power and authority, but He behaved as an ordinary man. In the same way even others sin against you but you need to control yourself and continue to live in holiness. You can avoid them and move away from their territory to protect yourself, but never think or try to harm them or revenge of the harm that they inflicted on you. You must also know that your retaliation will bring you more pain and more suffering. As well as never use your power and resources to threaten, revenge and retaliate but use them to protect yourself and those who are in Christ with you.

4. *Entrust yourself to God who judges justly: “but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously.”* Christ when He was on the cross surrendered His will to God and was willing to go through that kind of cruel and painful death. He did not revenge or hurt those who harmed Him. * In the same way surrender your full will to God and do not allow your flesh to manipulate this important period of suffering in your life, but rather be willing to go along the way and the style and scenario that God had ordained for you to live. * You do not need to revenge of those who harmed you, but placed them in the hand of God who is able to deal with them and revenge on your behalf, *“19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.” (Romans 12:13 KJV)*

C. Being patient: “7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until

he receive the early and latter rain. 8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. 9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door. 10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. 11 Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.” (James 5:7-11 KJV) From the above Scripture about being patient, you will set good example to others when you observe the following in being patient:

1. *Be patient until the second coming of Christ: “Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord.”* There is no final limit for being patient, but to continue to be patient until the Lord comes. Trials may continue, therefore you continue to be patient.

2. *Continue to be patient in order to receive the fruit: “Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth,”* You need to be patient so that the fruit of your hard work and labor will be harvested.

3. *Continue to be patient till you receive the shower of God’s blessings: “and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.”* As the farmer is waiting for the early rain in autumn and the late rain in spring, you in the same way need to wait upon God until He comes and bless you. You need to wait upon God to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

4. *Do not grumble against others: “9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.”* (James 5:9 KJV) Grumbling against others is the scapegoat for your lack of patient, and that will bring on you the judgment of God.

5. *Continue to persevere in order for you to be blessed: “10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. 11 Behold, we count them happy which endure.”* (James 5:10-11 KJV) As you persevere God will finally bring out the final outcome of your trial and reward you for your perseverance.

D. Serve God with Humility: “1 Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end. 2 And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him; 3 Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; 4 He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. 5 After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded. 6 Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet? 7 Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter. 8 Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me. 9 Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head. 10 Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all. 11 For he knew who should betray

him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean. 12 So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? 13 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. 16 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. 17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.” (John 13:1-17 KJV)

From the above Scripture about Christ’s humility in service, you will set good example to others when you observe the following in your service unto God:

1. *Serve even without titles: “4 He riseth from supper,”* tables are place of honor. Christ was rejected by the Jewish leaders but he delighted to serve and His service made Him overcome.

2. *Serve even without privileges: “4 He riseth from supper,”* He decided to leave the meal and the nice dinner food in order for Him to serve. Inside the church both categories are there; people who sit on tables and enjoy the privileges and people who are deprived of rights but they still do the work well. The last categories are good example for us to follow. Also do not put condition on God. Some they say to God ‘first give me this, then I will do this to you.’ This is not a good example to others to follow.

3. *Serve and do the complete service: “5 After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.”* (John 13:5 KJV) Jesus after He washed the feet of His disciples was sure to dry them with towel so they will not trap dirt again. Do the complete service even if you are unrecognized and set a good example to others to follow.

My dear and Beloved: Paul said, “19 Serving the LORD with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews:” (Acts 20:19 KJV) Paul was serving God wholeheartedly while he was persecuted and treated badly, but he continued to serve the Lord and such reflect the humility that he had and his full submission to God’s will and his perseverance to serve Him inspite of all the troubles that he was passing through and in such he portrayed a good example for us today to follow.

The time for you now to come to God, to surrender your will to Him in full, to work it out with the Holy Spirit to do what we had received in this message and to set a good example to others to follow.

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 all the teaching that we received in this message that portrayed to us the example that you want us to follow and portray in our lives. Lord thank you for your grace and for all the good things that you had given to us. Lord thank you for all the corrections, the rebukes and the admonishments we received in this message.

Come now to God and repent and renounce all your sins. Repent of your laziness, slouching, your non willingness to work hard and taking advantage of others. Repent of your anger, speaking bad words, fighting, unforgiveness, grudges and revenging of those who hurt you. Repent of your grumbling and complaining and your lack of patience and waiting upon God. Repent of your pride and lack of humility. Repent of your non willingness to serve without titles or privileges. Repent of your worldliness and your love for material things. Repent of your incomplete work and your non willingness to suffer for Christ. Repent of doing you own will and plan and not the will nor the plan of God in your life. Repent of your lack of prayers and reading God's Word. Lord I repent, forgive me, I renounce the following sins _____.

Lord I commit my life fully into your hand. Lord mould me in the way that you want me to be so that my life will be good example to others to follow. Lord equip me with strength, patience and humility to achieve your purpose in my life. Lord I commit to you this trial in my life that you will help me to pass through it _____. Lord continue to provide me my needs and give me good health so I can go and move and continue to serve you, this is my prayer in Jesus name Amen

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented of their sins, surrendered their will to you and are willing to serve you and set good example to others according to your Word in this message. Lord use them for your glory, 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 teach your Word and proclaim your will to the people. Lord we commit ourselves to set good example to others to follow you. Lord refill us once again with your Holy Spirit so we can go and do your work. Lord lead us to evangelize and reach new people and serve them, to make new disciples and train new workers, planting new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to be water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God'. Lord prepare us for your coming to go with you when you come. 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.

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