

How to be a Good Servant of Jesus Christ 1 Timothy 4:6-11

Introduction: In 1 Timothy 4, Paul gives personal instructions to Timothy challenging him to be “a good servant of Jesus Christ.”

□ 4:1-5 – He is to be _____

□ 4:6-12 – He is to be _____

Note three areas in which discipline is critical:

I. Be disciplined as a _____ of Christ 4:6a

We serve Christ by becoming His voice, hands and feet in serving the church. The greatest way for a pastor to serve the church is by _____ them in the Word of God (Eph 4:14-15; 1 Jo 2:14).

II. Be disciplined as a _____ of the Word 4:6-7a; 1 Peter 2:2

He must FIRST feed on the Word _____ and then feed the _____. Note two ways in which he is challenged to be disciplined as a student of the Word:

1. Feed your _____ on sound doctrine 4:6b

He must be a good _____ (2 Tim 2:15; 4:2-3).

2. Forsake _____ 4:7a

Intellectual arguments don't convince people to become Christians. The Holy Spirit uses the _____ truths of God's Word to bring conviction and faith in Christ.

Keep the main thing the main thing! And the main thing is _____ (1 Cor 1:23; 2:4-5; Eph 3:8).

III. Be disciplined as a _____ in this world 4:7b-12

There are two areas of ministry that Paul focuses on – two keys for every Christian to be pursuing:

1. He is to pursue the sanctification of his _____ life 4:7b-9

Godliness is a part of our calling as “saints” of God (1 Cor 1:2).

□ HAGIOS (“saints”) in the NT refers to God's people who have been called out from this world and _____ to Him.

□ “Godliness (EUSEBEIA) is living one's life with the perspective of reverence to God and the perspective of _____ to Him.

1) The essential for godliness 4:7b

_____ is essential for godliness.

□ There are things that you must say, “_____” to that defile your soul, cause you to be a stumblingblock, hinder your testimony or divert your time and attention to spiritual development (1 Cor 9:24-27).

□ There are _____ to develop – personal devotional time, church attendance, time given to serve the Body, etc.

2) The effects of godliness 4:8; Heb 11:5; Mat 5:10-12

Godliness is _____ both for the present life and for eternity.

2. He is to pursue the salvation of _____ people 4:10-11

These verses reveal the importance that godliness plays in the salvation of others.

1) Paul's depiction of ministry 4:10

- ☐ Ministry is _____ 4:10a
- ☐ Ministry is _____ 4:10b; 2:4; 1 Jo 4:14

Note that salvation has two aspects:

- _____ salvation ("who is the Savior of all people") – God is the Savior of all men in the sense that He does not execute _____ the moment a person sins (Ez 18:20; Rom 6:23). Unbelieving sinners live under a suspended sentence while God in mercy holds back His _____. And He shows them His _____ every day (Mt 5:45; Acts 17:25).
- _____ salvation ("especially of those who believe") – Those who put their faith in Christ not only experience temporal blessings but _____ blessings.

2) Paul's directive to Timothy 4:11; Titus 2:15

Paul challenges Timothy to teach with _____! This truth was handed down by God to be _____!

Everything we do in ministry is for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

- ☐ We guard the truth because without it people cannot be _____ (Romans 10:15).
- ☐ We live godly lives so that Christ can be seen in us and the gospel can be _____.
- ☐ We speak the truth boldly so that God's Word can be seen for what it is – eternal truth that _____ (Col 1:28-29).

Study Questions for 1 Timothy 4:6-11

1. What are some foolish myths that you have been exposed to on social media, entertainment media or books that you've read? Have you ever been in a situation where other Christians have tried to engage you in conversations about things that have no spiritual benefit? How should we respond?
2. Note from the following verses what the New Testament teaches about "godliness."
1 Timothy 6:3 –

1 Timothy 6:11 –

2 Peter 1:3 –

2 Timothy 3:12 –
3. What practical ways are you obeying 1 Timothy 4:7 (training yourself to godliness)?
4. How does 1 Timothy 4:8 relate to our American culture today? How has the culture impacted Christians?
5. How does godliness enhance the teaching of God's Word? Compare Philippians 4:9.