

Are You a Faithful Christian Example?

One's example is powerful! We learn, listen and live by example. People copy what they see others doing. Notice two illustrations. In the 1934 film, *It Happened One Night*, Clark Gable removed his shirt and he wasn't wearing an undershirt! Every man wore an undershirt! It is said that the sale of undershirts in the United States dropped by 75% as a result. People copy.

The makers of the 1982 film *E.T.* approached the confectionary maker Mars about having M&Ms used in the film. Mars, for some reason, said "No." So, the film makers went to Hershey's. The result was that *E.T.* ate Hershey's *Reece's Pieces*, which were relatively unknown at the time, but sales went through the roof. People copy.

Notice Great Bible examples: Abraham had great faith (Romans 4:20), Joseph was great in forgiving (Genesis 50:20), Moses was a great leader (Exodus 14), David was great at courage (1 Samuel 17) and Jesus is our perfect example (2 Corinthians 5:21). Notice seven Habits of highly effective Christians (1 Timothy 4:12-16).

Model Christian Morality (v. 12). Our words, conduct, love, spirit, faith and purity must be demonstrated in our thoughts, words and deeds. The greatest message we will ever preach is the one we preach with our lives (1 Corinthians 4:16; 11:1; Philippians 3:17; 4:9).

Biblical Foundation (v. 13). "Devote yourself" (verb) is *proseko*; it is present active indicative, which means to be continually devoted to the Word.

Using God-given Ability (v. 14). Timothy had received miraculous powers by the "laying on of hands." The miraculous age ceased at the end of the first century (1 Corinthians 13:8-12). Thus, it is by application we learn to use our God-given abilities. The Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25) stresses using what God gives us and not squandering it. What God has given, let us use to His glory (1 Corinthians 10:31)!

Purpose Driven Life (v. 15a). We must be entirely committed to holy living. Our purpose will determine our direction and outcome. Paul was clear about his purpose by saying, "For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21; Galatians 2:20).

Let your Light Shine (v. 15b). Christianity is not a passive mistake but a committed determination. Christians must stand strong, shine brightly and live faithfully. Our lives must be sterling examples of holiness for others to see and copy (1 Peter 1:13-16).

Dedicated Perseverance (v. 16a). We must exercise endurance by examining the two great areas of life: self and Scripture. Thus, we will be powerful examples as we are seen to endure (Hebrews 10:32-37)!

Clear Goal (v. 16b). Salvation is our greatest need! As we examine ourselves, endure and think eternally, our focus will be right.

Thomas Jefferson, in writing to John Adams once said, "As Christians, we must realize the world is judging Christianity by us!"

- Mark Posey (via Dewey Avenue Church of Christ, St. Marys, WV) -

A good example is the best sermon.

News Notes

CONFESSION: Ed Wiersbicki. Ed also requests prayers for his recovery after a recent fall.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Jerry Shultz will be admitted today to the VA Hospital in Nashville, TN for a heart procedure.

A CHALLENGE TO ALL: Bro. Rico has issued a challenge for us to read the entire New Testament **this month (30 days)**. Will you accept the challenge?

COVERED DISH DINNER: TODAY about noon at the Fellowship Building, followed by our **early afternoon worship at 2:00 p.m.** at the Church Building.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Tuesday at 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. All ladies are invited to participate.

CONVERT'S CLASS: Thursday at 11:00 a.m. All are welcome.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Next Saturday, June 7th, 8:00 a.m. at Coplin's in Newell.

LADIES RETREAT: June 6-8, Northeastern Ohio Christian Youth Camp, Lisbon, OH. "Unplug, Recharge, & Reconnect." Titus Chapter 2. Additional details on the bulletin board.

OUR VBS: Begins next week, June 9-13, 10:00 a.m. - Noon. Classes for all ages.

GRADUATION PARTY: For Owen Haught (Ship & Sue's grandson), **Saturday, June 14th, 12:00-4:00 p.m.**, 3169 Pennsylvania Ave., Weirton. RSVP to Jen, 304-479-3716.

BIBLE CAMP: July 7-12 at Tomlinson Run State Park. Registration Packs available.

BABY SHOWER: For MaClay Toomey, **Saturday, July 26th, 11:00 a.m.** at our Fellowship Building. **RSVP by July 12th** to Docie, 304-374-4085 or Lindsay, 304-374-4423. MaClay is registered at www.babylist.com.

PANTRY: Dinty Moore Beef Stew.

SICK: At Home: David & Becky McKittrick, Matt Malcomson, Brian Haught (Skip's brother), John Sprout, Randy Beagle, Peggy Linger, Scharlotte Jones, Harry Huff, Nancy Cox, Barbara DeLong, Marlene Evans, Cheryl Renfro Walker. **Serra Manor, Weirton:** Jean Haught (Skip's mother). **Fox, Chester:** Janice Hutchins, Mary Johnson. **Elsewhere:** Carolyn Carbone, 98 Orange Blossom Lane, Ranson, WV 25438. Herman McHan, 7401 Elmwood Dr., Lisbon, OH 44432.

Take It All To Jesus

If you're always in a dither with far too much to do,
If your life's a constant hassle and just too much for you,
If you're plagued and vexed with worries and life's more than you can bear,
Why not take it all to Jesus, silently in prayer?
He'll comfort, rest and soothe you, He'll help you to unwind,
And as an added bonus He'll give you peace of mind.

- Author Unknown -