

# Serving Others by Example

## Points to Consider

1. The Importance of Examples
2. Two Godly Examples
3. What about You?

## The Importance of Examples

**John 13:13-17** *You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. 16 Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. 17 If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.* NKJV

Jesus washed the disciples' feet as an example that they should also \_\_\_\_\_ one another.

**1 Cor 4:14-17** *I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children I warn you. 15 For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. 16 Therefore I urge you, imitate me. 17 For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church.* NKJV

Paul instructed the Corinthians to \_\_\_\_\_ him.

**1 Cor 10:31-11:1** *Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. 32 Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God, 33 just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved. 11:1 Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.* NKJV

Paul wanted the Corinthians to imitate his \_\_\_\_\_.

**Heb 6:9-12** *But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner. 10 For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. 11 And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, 12 that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.*

The Hebrew writer praises those who \_\_\_\_\_ the saints.

He also encourages them to imitate those who through faith and \_\_\_\_\_ inherit the promises.

**Heb 12:1-4** *Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race*

*that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. NKJV*

The Hebrew writer teaches us to look at the example of God's \_\_\_\_\_ followers.  
The best example to follow is that of \_\_\_\_\_.

## Two Godly Examples

### Barnabas

**Acts 4:36-37** *And Joses, who was also named Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated Son of Encouragement), a Levite of the country of Cyprus, 37 having land, sold it, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet. NKJV*

Barnabas sold land and gave the money to the apostles to distribute to the \_\_\_\_\_ saints.

Barnabas was also recognized by others as an \_\_\_\_\_.

**Acts 15:36-41** *Then after some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us now go back and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they are doing." 37 Now Barnabas was determined to take with them John called Mark. 38 But Paul insisted that they should not take with them the one who had departed from them in Pamphylia, and had not gone with them to the work. 39 Then the contention became so sharp that they parted from one another. And so Barnabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus; 40 but Paul chose Silas and departed, being commended by the brethren to the grace of God. 41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches. NKJV*

Barnabas encouraged John Mark by choosing to \_\_\_\_\_ him instead of continuing his work with Paul. John Mark was their assistant (Acts 13:5) before he left to return to Jerusalem.

**Col 4:10-11** *Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, with Mark the cousin of Barnabas (about whom you received instructions: if he comes to you, welcome him), 11 and Jesus who is called Justus. These are my only fellow workers for the kingdom of God who are of the circumcision; they have proved to be a comfort to me. NKJV*

**Philem 23-25** *Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you, 24 as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow laborers. 25 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.*

**2 Tim 4:11-12** *Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry. NKJV*

Barnabas had a huge \_\_\_\_\_ on John Mark's life by encouraging him when Paul refused to take him to strengthen the brethren.

**Acts 9:26-28** *And when Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, and did not believe that he was a disciple. 27 But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. And he declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. NKJV*

Barnabas helped Paul \_\_\_\_\_ the disciples in Jerusalem.

## **Dorcas**

**Acts 9:31** *Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied. ... 36 At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did. 37 But it happened in those days that she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. 38 And since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, imploring him not to delay in coming to them. 39 Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought him to the upper room. And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them. 40 But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. 41 Then he gave her his hand and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints and widows, he presented her alive. 42 And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord. 43 So it was that he stayed many days in Joppa with Simon, a tanner. NKJV*

Tabitha was a great example of serving the \_\_\_\_\_, especially the widows.  
The disciples sent for Peter \_\_\_\_\_ she died, was washed and was laid in an upper room.

Peter put everyone out of the room and said "Tabitha, arise."

After she arose, Peter gave her his hand and lifted her up.

**Luke 8:54-56** *But He put them all outside, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Little girl, arise." 55 Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately. And He commanded that she be given something to eat. 56 And her parents were astonished, but He charged them to tell no one what had happened.*

Peter was following \_\_\_\_\_ example.

## **What about You?**

**1 Tim 4:12-16** *Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. 13 Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. 14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. 15 Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. 16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you. NKJV*

Paul tells Timothy to be an example to the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Col 4:6** *Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.* NKJV

We can be examples to believers by the way we \_\_\_\_\_ to people (in word).

**Phil 1:27-29** *Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel, 28 and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that from God.* NKJV

We can be examples to believers in \_\_\_\_\_.

**1 John 3:18** *My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.*

We can be examples to people by doing things that show \_\_\_\_\_.

We have examples of faith all around us.

We have examples of sexual purity all around us.

We have examples of great marriages all around us.

By preaching and living God's word, we will **save** people.

To whom can you be an example?