

Set An Example Part 4

“In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

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**: ***“7 In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness 8 and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.”*** Paul said to Titus:

- 1- *In everything set them an example by doing what is good:*** To set an example to others this will only be possible when you do what is good, right and just.
- 2- *In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned:*** What you say that what you need to do. You must act the word that you speak and that is integrity. Be serious and describe clearly what you are planning and going to do. 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 In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers, to keep away from every brother who is idle and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. 7 For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, 8 nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. 9 We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to make ourselves a model for you to follow. 10 For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat.” (2Thessalonians 3:6-10)*** You will set good example to others when you observe the following:

1- *Being diligent and not idle:* ***“One who is slack in his work is brother to one who destroys.” (Proverbs 18:9)*** 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.

3- *Do not be a burden:* Do not cause trouble to others. Do not allow your style of life and living will cause trouble or hardships to others.

4- *Work hard, labour and toil:* To solve and overcome your problem, to provide for yourself, to be prepared to face trials and to coop with coming excessive demands and needs. **Proverbs 24:30-34** ***“30 I went past the field of the sluggard, past the vineyard of the man who lacks judgment; 31 thorns had come up everywhere, the ground was covered with weeds, and the stone wall was in ruins. 32 I applied my heart to what I observed and learned a lesson from what I saw: 33 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest-- 34 and poverty will come on you like a bandit and scarcity like an armed man.”*** Weed and thorns you have to remove so you can plant and 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 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.” (1Peter 2”21-23)*** Suffering is one of the things that God allow and ordain 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- *Do not sin:* ***"He committed no sin,"*** You need to control yourself and to continue to live in holiness. Sin should not rule over your life.

2- *Do not speak bad:* ***“no deceit was found in his mouth.”*** Keep your heart clean and pure toward those who harmed you.

3- *Do not retaliate and threaten others:* ***“When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats.”*** Even others sin against you but you need to control yourself and to continue to live in holiness. You can avoid them and move away from their territory but never think or try to harm them or revenge of the harm that they inflicted on you.

4- *Entrust yourself to God who judges justly:* ***“Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.”*** Fully surrender your life to God and accept whatever outcome God would allocate for the trial that you are passing through.

C- *Being patient:* ***“7 Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. 8 You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. 9 Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door! 10***

Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. 11 As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.” (James 5:7-11) 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, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming.”* There is no final limit for being patient until the Lord's come. Trials may continue, therefore you continue to be patient.

2- Continue to be patient in order to receive the fruit: *“See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop.”* You need to be patient so that the fruit of your labour will be harvested.

3- Continue to be patient till you receive the shower of God's blessings: *“and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains.”* As the farmer is waiting for the rain, you the same you 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: *“Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!” (James 5:9)* Grumbling against other is the scapegoat for your lack of patient.

5- Continue to persevere in order for you to be blessed: *“As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered.”* 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 It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love. 2 The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. 3 Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; 4 so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. 5 After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. 6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" 7 Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." 8 "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." 9 "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"*

10 Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." 11 For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean. 12 When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. 13 "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. 14 Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. 15 I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. 16 I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.” (John 13:1-17) From the above scripture about Christ 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 so he got up from the meal,”* Tables are place of honour. Christ was rejected by the Jewish leaders but he delighted to serve and His service made Him overcome.

2- Serve even without privileges: *“4 so he got up from the meal,”* He decided to leave the meal and the nice dinner food in order for him to serve. Inside the church bother 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 you 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: *“After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.”* Jesus after he washed His disciples feet he 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, *“I served the Lord with great humility and with tears, although I was severely tested by the plots of the Jews.” (Acts 20:19)* Meditate on the message and work it out with The Holy Spirit to set a good example to others to follow as you agree to 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 I commit my life fully into your hand. Lord moulds 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, this is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.*