

Examples of the Believers -- I Tim. 4:12

- **Introduction**

- Questions for all:
 - What concept of a Christian do others get when they look at my life? (Titus 2:10)
 - Do I live a life that is worthy of imitation? (Phil. 3:17; Titus 2:7; I Thess. 1:7)
 - Am I living with the recognition that others are being influenced by my example, and that I will be held accountable? (Phil. 1:12-14; Rom. 2:24)
- Lesson: Areas to consider my example/influence and a look at some good examples that are helpful. (I Tim. 4:12)

- **Discussion**

- Speech

- Speech, a word uttered by a living voice...
- The Word of God has much to instruct us about our speech:
 - Matt. 12:34 → reflects our heart.
 - Matt. 12:36 → we will give account for our words.
 - Eph. 4:29-5:4 → corrupt speech is condemned.
 - Col. 4:5-6 → edifying, reflective speech is commended.
- Examples of note: Abigail (I Sam. 25); Nathan (II Sam. 12); Naaman's servants (II Ki. 5)

- Conduct

- Manner of life, behavior, deportment.
- Scriptures address our behavior:
 - Eph. 4:22 → A Christian is to put off the old sinful behavior.
 - I Pet. 1:15-16 → We are to be holy in all manner of behavior.
 - I Pet. 3:1-2, 16 → Upright, godly, behavior may win the sinner/put to shame.
- Look at some examples: The good Samaritan. (Lk. 10:30-36); Barnabas (Acts 4:36-37); Dorcas (Acts 9:36,39)

- Love

- Agape → Unconquerable benevolence; undefeatable goodwill.
- The Bible gives us the pattern for love (I Cor. 13:4-8,13)
 - 13:4 Love is patient, love is kind, it is not envious. Love does not brag, it is not puffed up. 13:5 It is not rude, it is not self-serving, it is not easily angered or resentful. 13:6 It is not glad about injustice, but rejoices in the truth. 13:7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things...Love never ends.
- Consider God's love for us: (Jn. 3:16; I Jn. 3:16; II Pet. 3:9)

- Faithfulness

- Faithfulness: conviction of the truth of God's word; faithfulness, fidelity in service to God, the character of one who can be relied on.
- Faithfulness:
 - Conviction: Heb. 11:1; I Pet. 3:15; Jude 3
 - Fidelity to God: II Tim. 4:2-4; Heb. 10:24-25; I Cor. 15:58
- Examples of faithfulness: Aquila and Priscilla (Acts 18:26; Rom. 16:3; I Cor. 16:19)

- Purity

- Purity: free from the defilement of sin, chaste, morally pure in thought or conduct.
- The Bible on purity:
 - Prov. 4:23 → Our thoughts determine our actions.
 - Phil. 4:8 → To live pure lives, we must think pure thoughts.
 - I Jn. 3:2-3 → to see Jesus we must purify ourselves.
- Examples of purity: Joseph (Gen. 39:9-12) Daniel (Dan. 1:8)

- **Conclusion: Jesus Christ, The Ultimate Example. (I Pet. 2:221-24)**