

Qualities of a Good Minister, Part 4

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: 1 Timothy 4.

B. There are seven principles to being a good minister of Jesus Christ.

II. An excellent minister warns people of error. This is discernment.

III. An excellent minister is a student of Scripture. This is knowledge.

IV. An excellent minister avoids unholy teaching. This is separation.

V. An excellent minister is disciplined in personal godliness. This is holiness.

VI. An excellent minister is committed to hard work. This is diligence.

VII. An excellent minister teaches with a practical authority. This is power.

VIII. An excellent minister is a model of spiritual virtue. This is integrity.

IX. An excellent minister has a thoroughly biblical ministry. (1 Timothy 4:13)

A. "The reading of Scripture" includes an explanation.

B. Every synagogue had a time for reading.

C. Three things are needed.

1. Exposition as explanation. (Acts 2:42, Colossians 3:14)

2. The reading was to be applied.

3. People's consciences were bound to respond.

D. The highest calling of the minister is the exposition of the Word of God.

E. Repetition is necessary because people forget. Repetition must be fresh.

X. An excellent minister is to fulfill his calling.

A. Timothy is in a dangerous spot because he is about to neglect his gift.

B. Timothy became timid.

C. Paul reminds Timothy that the ministry he is engaged in is not his choice--the Spirit gifted him for it.

D. Timothy was compelled to minister by the circumstances around him.

E. Timothy was compelled to minister by the collective assembly.

Application Questions:

1. What is a church missing when exposition of the Bible is not emphasized?

2. What are some resources you can use outside of your church to learn the Bible better?

3. What is your calling? How can you know?
