Marks of a Faithful Preacher, Part 2 John MacArthur

- I. Introduction.
 - A. Text: 2 Timothy 4.
 - B. There are characteristics that the faithful preacher must be held to.
- II. Preachers are to preach the word.
 - A. Preaching means to publicly announce. (2 Peter 2:5)
 - B. The Word refers to the full revelation of God. It is to be taken in, understood and then proclaimed.
 - C. Paul was a preacher of the mystery now revealed, which is the New Testament. (Colossians 1, 2 Corinthians 4:5)
 - D. Exposition focuses on the meaning of the sacred writer.
 - E. Preaching the Word of God is right because...
 - 1. It gives voice to God.
 - 2. It brings the preacher into direct contact with the mind of the Holy Spirit.
 - 3. It forces the preacher to preach the entire word of God.
 - 4. It reinforces biblical literacy.
 - 5. It carries the ultimate authority.
 - 6. It transforms the preacher.
- III. Preachers are to understand the scope of their commission.
 - A. They are to be ready. (Romans 1:15, 1 Timothy 3:15, Ephesians 5:16)
 - B. Without eagerness, a ministry will die.
- III. Preachers have a positive ministry of training and a negative ministry of rebuke
 - A. The preacher reproves and rebukes. First sin is disclosed. Second the sinfulness of the sinner is addressed. (Luke 3:18, Ephesians 5:11, 1 Thessalonians 2:11)
 - B. We have to show patience as we encourage people to spiritual recovery.

Application Questions:

1. Which reason for preaching the word do you find to be outstanding?	
2. How should the Word be preached?	
3. Why is it necessary sometimes to have a "negative message?" Explain.	