

## **Marks of a Faithful Preacher, Part 4**

*John MacArthur*

### I. Introduction.

- A. Text: 2 Timothy 4:1-5.
- B. The presupposition is that Timothy was to obey the commands given because he was called by God to the preaching and teaching of the word.
- C. Because we have been called to salvation, we all have a unique call to share that calling with others. (Revelation 22:17, 1 Peter 2:9, Ephesians 4:1)
- D. There is a specific call to the direct ministry of the word. (1 Timothy 1:12, 2 Timothy 1:10)
- E. One can know that he is called specifically.

### II. Subjectively.

- A. This is a craving--a compulsion. (1 Corinthians 9:16-17)
- B. This is not ambition. (3 John 7)
- C. Timothy was compelled in this way. (2 Corinthians 1:1, Philippians 2)

### III. Objectively. This takes into account circumstances, talents and gifts.

### IV. Collectively.

- A. The church must step in to affirm a calling.
  - 1. Sin can keep a person from serving effectively.
  - 2. The church must affirm one's suitability.
- B. The church also must receive. The body is always in need of suitable ministers.
- C. Timothy fit the criterion.

### V. Effectivity. (Jeremiah 23, 1 Thessalonians 2, 1 Corinthians 16:10)

### VI. The expectation of leaders.

- A. Leaders must be willing to suffer. (2 Timothy 3:1, Hebrews 13:23)
- B. The measure of a man's character is his unwillingness to compromise.

### VII. The Extent.

- A. Timothy was to do the work of an evangelist. (Ephesians 4:11)

B. We must be faithful to preach the gospel.

1. Be simple and clear.

2. Know your limits.

3. Do not manipulate. The will, not the emotions must be manipulated. (Ephesians 2:1)

C. There must be solid preaching

VIII. The goal.

A. We must fill it up.

B. Serve with your whole heart now. (Deuteronomy 11:13)

**Application Questions:**

1. Have you ever been compelled to serve in some way? What might this tell you about yourself?

---

---

2. What gifts do you have? How can one go about discerning this?

---

---

3. Why is it important that someone's ministry be effective before he be given a position in ministry? Explain.

---

---