

# Each One Teach One Discipleship Lessons

## Part Three:

### FAITH THAT LIFTS UP

#### Learning to Share Your Faith in God

## LESSON ELEVEN:

### DISCIPLES on DISPLAY

"Don't do as I **do**. Do as I **say**!"

How effective was this admonition from your parents when you were 12 years old? If it was as effective as most parents **hope**, we wouldn't have an epidemic of youngsters following their parents into such habits as smoking and drinking. Unfortunately, Christians often try to use this same kind of "excuse" for their own short-comings when working with new disciples. Have you ever found yourself saying, "Don't look to me. Look to Jesus." That is good advice. As Christians mature they will have to come to realize that no one is the perfect role model but Jesus. **However**--it doesn't get rid of your responsibility to be the best model you can be. You see, until the new disciple has studied the scriptures and seen the full picture of Jesus presented there, **you** are the "living epistle" that tells him about what Jesus is like!

If your efforts at evangelizing start to bear fruit, if new "baby Christians" are a result of your zeal, are you ready for that kind of responsibility? If we are to "make disciples of all nations" and "teach them to observe ALL things" Christ commanded, is that **teaching** just with **words**? **No!!!** As the old saying goes, often "What you **are** speaks so loudly I cannot hear what you **say**."

In *Lesson Ten* we discovered that one of the ways you "speak loudly" is through the kind of **love** you express to God and Man. In this lesson we will consider what the scriptures have to say about **setting an example** in all that you do.

\*\*\*\*\* Yes, Jesus **is** to be our **ultimate** example:

[John 13:15]

*I have set you an \_\_\_\_\_ that you should do as I have done for you.*

\*\*\*\*\* But the Apostle Paul was able to say of himself:

[Philip 3:17]

*Join with others in following my \_\_\_\_\_, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the \_\_\_\_\_ we gave you.*

*II Thes 3:6-10*

*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. For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our \_\_\_\_\_. We were not idle when we were with you, 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. We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to make ourselves a \_\_\_\_\_ for you to \_\_\_\_\_. For*

*even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat."*

\*\*\*\*\* Paul advised the young evangelist Timothy to be willing to be an example:

[I Tim 4:12]

*Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in \_\_\_\_\_, in life, in love, in faith and in \_\_\_\_\_.*

\*\*\*\*\* Paul gave similar advice to Titus and other elders and teachers in the early church:

[Titus 2:7-8]

*In everything set them an example by \_\_\_\_\_. In your teaching show \_\_\_\_\_, seriousness 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.*

[I Peter 5:1-4]

*To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers--not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being \_\_\_\_\_ to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.*

\*\*\*\*\* But Paul didn't just give this advice to "ordained ministers":

[I Thes 1:4-7]

*For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. You became \_\_\_\_\_ of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. And so you became a \_\_\_\_\_ to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.*

\*\*\*\*\* And Jesus himself said that **all** His followers should be examples to the world:

[Matthew 5:14-16]

*You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may \_\_\_\_\_ and praise your Father in heaven.*

\*\*\*\*\* The Greek words translated "example" in most of these passages specifically imply something that is "on exhibit" for the purpose of either ...

1. Being worthy of **imitation** or
2. Being put forth as a **warning** (of what **not** to be like!)

As you reach out to make new disciples for Christ, you will have **no choice**: You **will** be "on exhibit" for new disciples to see! It will be your choice just **what kind** of exhibit you will be--for imitation, or for warning.



If you've traveled in Indiana or Oklahoma, you may have seen their highway warning signs, with a silhouette of a patrol car and a police helicopter. The signs say, "Watch Your Speed--We Are!"



And you also likely remember the popular yellow car window signs everywhere a few years ago that announced "Baby on Board." (Did you realize the original intent of those signs was to alert police to look for infants in case of an accident?)

As you prepare to be a disciple-maker for Jesus, in your mind's eye, see a yellow sign that says:

### Baby Christians on Board



Watch Your Walk--  
They are!

### REVIEW:

1. Jesus is the only **perfect** good *example* to us all.
2. Even so, Jesus' disciples **are** on exhibit as *examples* to others.
3. An *example* can **warn** what to **avoid**, or "**model**" what to **imitate**.
4. We are called as disciples to walk in a way **worthy of imitation**.
5. We need to GROW IN FAITH so we set a good **EXAMPLE** at all times.
6. We need to consider the **EXAMPLE** we set **before** we try to make other disciples.

## MEMORY VERSES:

### LESSON ELEVEN MEMORY VERSE:

**I Tim 4:12**

**Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young,  
but set an example for the believers  
in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.**

### LESSON NINE MEMORY VERSE:

John 8:31B-32

... Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

### LESSON TEN MEMORY VERSE:

John 13:35

By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

## QUESTIONS:

1. Why do unbelievers judge Christianity by the behavior of Christians?

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2. Is there a Christian you look to as a example in an area of life?

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3. Give an example of something that can "hinder your testimony."

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4. Must we wait until we're "perfect" to share our faith? Explain.

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5. How might your example "cause a little one to sin"? [Matthew: 18:6]

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6. Write I Timothy 4:12 from memory:

Don't let anyone look down on you \_\_\_\_\_

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7. Fill in the blanks in these scripture quotes from past lessons:  
[You only have to fill in the version you are using for memory]

NIV: If you hold to my \_\_\_\_\_ you are really my disciples.

KJV: If you continue in my \_\_\_\_\_, then you are my disciples...

NIV: By this shall all men know you are my disciples,  
if you \_\_\_\_\_.

KJV: By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples,  
if ye have \_\_\_\_\_.