TIMOTHY: AN EXAMPLE TO THE BELIEVERS

(1 Timothy 4:6-16)

INTRODUCTION - (v12) "but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (v13) "give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine."

"Example" - someone set forth as a pattern or sample for us to copy or imitate in our life.

God is our example: (Eph. 5:1) "Be imitators of God as dear children"

Jesus: (1 Peter 2:21) "leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps" (Philippians 2:5 and John 13:15)

Apostle Paul: (KJV) (1 Cor. 11:1) "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ"

"BE AN EXAMPLE" - the reason is found in (v16)

1. "IN WORD"

1) Reference to the language we use and the manner in which it is used.

(Matthew 12:36-37; Ephesians 4:29-31; Colossians 4:6) Our language is an exemplary mark of Christianity.

2) Timothy, as a preacher, was to: (2 Timothy 4:2) "Preach the word."

(2 Timothy 1:13) Timothy was to follow Paul's example in this. Also, (Ephesians 4:15) "but, speaking the truth in love ..."

2. "IN CONDUCT"

"Practice what you preach" "Walk the talk" "I'd **rather see a sermon** any day than hear one" (2 Timothy 3:10) _"you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life ... " (1 Timothy 3:14-15) "... know how you ought to conduct yourself ... "

3. "IN LOVE" - (Matthew 22:37-40; John 14:15 and 1 John 5:3)

4. "IN SPIRIT"

Exemplify the "fruit of the Spirit" (Galatians 5:22-23). Also, references the manner and disposition in which we do things around here.

5. "IN FAITH" - it's our confidence in God's Word, His promises. Trust.

(Titus 2:7-10) "showing yourself to be a pattern of good works ...
But showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior"

6. "IN PURITY" - (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)