

“The Measure of a Man – Twenty Attributes of a Godly Man”

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Introduction

- D.D. Lewis, former linebacker with the Dallas Cowboys, strayed from the Lord and sought help from the author, his former pastor
- He needed spiritual help and accountability
- To get back on track, he worked through this book, a chapter at a time, and would meet weekly to talk about it, discuss and pray
- We are going to do this too.
- It will take honesty. If we fall down in some area of our life, we will need to admit it up front, and get back on track with the Lord
- Titus 3:5-7 – No matter what has happened, God will forgive us and help us back
- This book will help us discover how to become a better husband, father, and Christian – by being a more mature man of God
- This study, and getting together on a weekly basis to discuss what we are reading, can help us develop accountability in our children's lives too

How do we measure maturity?

- The apostle Paul outlines 20 qualities for measuring maturity
- These are described in his first letter to Timothy, and his letter to Titus (1 Tim 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-10)
- Each time we get together one of us will spend around 30 minutes discussing what we can learn from scripture about this particular subject
- Then we will spend 30 minutes discussing and sharing

focussing mainly on how we can implement this quality in our lives

- The focus of this study is in 2 Timothy 2:2
- “The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also”.

Chapter 1 - Becoming a Faithful Man

- These 20 qualities describe the kind of people managers look for when hiring
- They help to show who should be promoted, and who is doing well in their particular field, and having a positive influence
- These are all desirable qualities

Timothy in Ephesus

- 2 Tim 3:17
- How do we recognize a “man of God”?
- Timothy was a pastor whom Paul had left in charge of the Ephesus church
- He had to deal with people who wanted to be spiritual leaders
- But Paul tells Timothy that each one should be a particular type of person
- 1 Tim 3:1

Titus in Crete

- Titus faced the same challenge
- Paul appointed him to raise up spiritual leaders in towns where churches had now been established (Titus 1:5)
- Titus' problems were more difficult, because some had established themselves as leaders who did not exhibit these qualities, and were after the money (v.10-11)
- The lists of qualities are in 1 Tim 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-10
- Here is a summary of the qualities listed:

- Overall spiritual maturity – a well rounded man
- Above reproach – a man of good repute
- The husband of one wife – morally pure
- Temperate – balanced in words and actions
- Prudent – wise and humble
- Respectable – good role model
- Hospitable – unselfish and generous
- Able to teach – communicates sensitively in a non-threatening and nondefensive manner
- Not addicted to wine – not addicted to substances
- Not self-willed – not self-centered and controlling
- Not quick-tempered – empty of anger that becomes sinful
- Not pugnacious – not abusive
- Gentle – sensitive, loving and kind
- Peaceable – nonargumentative and non-divisive
- Free from the love of money – nonmaterialistic
- Manages his own household well – a good husband and father
- Loving what is good – pursues godly activities
- Just – wise, discerning, nonprejudiced and fair
- Devout – holy, devoted to God
- Self-controlled – disciplined
- These goals are for every Christian man
- They help define our maturity level in our walk with God
- Don't allow self to become discouraged
- If we are weak in some areas, see it as a challenge to develop there and become stronger
- When the enemy tempts you to give up, resist him
- James 4:7-8

Discussion Questions

- Why do you think that Paul gave us these lists of attributes?
- Why do some men grow rapidly in their Christian faith, while others struggle and seem to take as many steps back as forward
- Think of some examples you can sensitively share. If you feel free to, share your own personal experiences
- As you look back at Paul's list, what would you consider to be your areas of strength?
- As you look back at the list, in which particular area would you like to grow the most? Can you identify the factors that may be holding you back?