

Living Above the Fray

Characteristics of a Good
Pastor/Teacher

2 Timothy 4:1-5

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¹In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: ²Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and

careful instruction. ³ For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. ⁵ But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

Just the facts

- A solemn injunction
- 9 imperatives

V1

Vv2-5

9 Imperatives

1. Preach the Word
2. Be prepared
3. Correct
4. Rebuke
5. Encourage
6. Keep your head
7. Endure hardship
8. Evangelize
9. Be faithful

The Primary Task

1. Preach the word (be urgent)
 - Preaching is the process whereby eternal truth is transmitted through personality.
 - Know the content
 - Know the audience (teach according to needs)

The Primary Task

2. Be prepared

- Don't wait and cram for each crisis.
- Stay in a constant state of readiness.

The Primary Task

3. Correct

to state that someone has done wrong, with the implication that there is adequate proof of such wrongdoing—‘to rebuke, to reproach, rebuke, reproach.’

- Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 435). New York: United Bible Societies.

4. Rebuke

to express strong disapproval of someone—‘to rebuke, to denounce.’

- Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 435). New York: United Bible Societies.

The Primary Task

5. Encourage

to cause someone to be encouraged or consoled, either by verbal or non-verbal means—‘to encourage, to console, encouragement.’

- Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 305). New York: United Bible Societies.

Necessary Modifiers

- Patience

a state of emotional calm in the face of provocation or misfortune

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a state of emotional calm in the face of provocation or misfortune and without complaint or irritation—‘patience.’

- Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 306). New York: United Bible Societies.

- Careful instruction

to provide instruction in a formal or informal setting—‘to teach, teaching.’

- Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 412). New York: United Bible Societies.

Mitigating Circumstances

³ For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

Necessary Correctives

6. Keep your head

“ . . . calm and well-balanced attitude “in all matters.”

Hendricksen

7. Endure hardship

“ . . . don't look for conflict or complain about it. . . “

Hendricksen

Necessary Correctives

8. Evangelize

“early usage would suggest that this was often a person who went from place to place announcing the good news.”

- Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 541). New York: United Bible Societies.

9. Be faithful

“to fully accomplish one’s task—‘to perform one’s complete duty, to finish fully one’s task, to accomplish satisfactorily.’”

- Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 657). New York: United Bible Societies.

To Go . . .

What do you most admire about the pastors that you listen to?

What are the areas in which you have “itchy ears?”

Are you a faithful “teacher” to those that you influence?