

A Follower to Follow for the Prize (Philippians 3:17-19)

Q: Are you an example of Christ that others should follow?

- ✓ The Word – Being constant in the Word will keep you moving forward
- ✓ Prayer – Prayer is vital to our growth. There must be communication in order for a relationship to grow.
- ✓ Fellowship in Discipleing – We need fellowship and accountability on this journey of the Christian life as they encourage us to be faithful.
- ✓ Trials – Trails have a perfecting purpose

Paul's challenge for each of us is that we would follow Godly examples and in turn become Godly examples to follow.

I. _____ Examples—_____ Godly Examples (v. 17)

Christ's call to the disciples was, "_____ Me" (Mat 4:19)—be My disciples, be _____ Me (Mat 11:29).

1 Corinthians 11:1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also *am* of Christ.

Cf. 1 Corinthians 4:16-17

Q: What kind of follower would a new Christian become if he or she imitated you?

Cf. Psalm 37:37

Q: Are we an example of Christ to the degree that other can see the nail prints in our hands?

Q: In order to be an imitator of Christ that other should follow, what are the necessary actions?

- A. Be _____
- B. Be _____
- C. Be _____
- D. Be _____
- E. Be _____

II. _____ Examples—_____ from Enemies (v. 18-19)

Matthew 7:29 Therefore by their fruits you shall know them.

- A. Their _____ (v. 19)

Cf. 2 Peter 2:1

In Romans 16:17 Paul begs that we "*mark*" them which cause _____.

B. Their _____ (v. 19)

Philippians 2:21 For all seek [*to crave or worship*] their own, not the things which are **Jesus Christ's**.

- 1. Their _____ is _____—"whose god is their belly"

Proverbs 15:8 The sacrifice of the wicked *is* an abomination to the **LORD**: but the prayer of the upright *is* His delight.

Cf. John 4:23-24

- 2. Their _____ is _____—"and whose glory is their shame"

Cf. Romans 16:18 & Isaiah 5:20

Galatians 6:14 But **God** forbid that I should glory [*boast/exalt*], save in the cross of our **Lord Jesus Christ**, by **Whom** the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

- 3. Their _____ of thinking is _____—"who mind earthly things"

As opposed to a spiritual mind, like Paul had, these "*enemies of the cross*" have an earthly, secular mind.

III. Your _____

In Ephesians 4:22-24 Paul tells us to put off, to renew, and to put on.

- A. Put off the _____ (Ephesians 4:22)

Cf. 2 Timothy 2:21

Proverbs 25:4 Take away the dross from the silver, and there shall come forth a vessel for the finer [*refiner*].

- B. Renew your _____ (Ephesians 4:23)

Colossians 3:1-2 ...seek those things which are above,... **2** Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

Cf. 2 Peter 2:7-8

- C. Put on _____ (Ephesians 4:24)

Cf. James 2:17-18

If we don't look like the Christ we claim to be following, how can we ever be a useful vessel in the hands of our Lord? How will we bring honor and glory to the Lord Jesus Christ—the glory that is due His holy name?