

## **I. Introduction: Reciprocal Responsibilities**

## **II. A Minister's Living Example (12)**

- A. In Speech (6:4-5; Col 4:6; Eph 4:29)
- B. In Conduct (Matt 23:2-3)
- C. In Love (Matt 22:37-40; John 13:34)
- D. In Faith (Heb 11:6, 13-16; 12:1-3)
- E. In Purity (5:2; 2 Tim 2:22; Eph 5:1-3)

## **III. A Minister's Teaching (11, 13)**

- A. Public Reading of Scripture (Deu 31:10-13; 2 Chr 34:18-19, 30)
- B. Teaching / Doctrine (Neh 8:7-9; Luke 4:16-21)
- C. Exhortation (2 Tim 3:14-4:5)

## **IV. A Minister's Dedication (14-16a)**

- A. Do Not Neglect Your Gift (2 Tim 1:6ff)
- B. Practice Carefully / Takes Pains
- C. Immerse Yourself
- D. Make Progress (Phil 1:12, 25; 2:12; 3:12-14)
- E. Keep a Close Watch
- F. Persevere (Col 1:23; Heb 12:2-3; 2 Tim 4:7-8)

## **V. A Minister's Promise: to Be an Instrument of God (16b; 1:15; 2:3; 4:10; Rom 10:8-17)**

“First life, then doctrine—the order is important. Timothy cannot defend the Christian faith until he lives the Christian life. To quote the famous Puritan Richard Baxter “There are too many men who are ministers before they know how to be Christians.” —Philip Ryken

“Those who teach by their doctrine must teach by their life, else they pull down with one hand what they build up with the other.” —Matthew Henry

“Moreover, take heed to yourselves, lest your example contradict your doctrine, and lest you lay such stumbling-blocks before the blind as may be the occasion of their ruin; lest you may unsay that with your lives which you say with your tongues; and be the greatest hinderers of the success of your own labours.” —Richard Baxter, *The Reformed Pastor*

“My people's greatest need is my personal holiness.” —Robert Murray M'Cheyne

### Reflection Questions (for personal reflection and family conversation):

1. What are the duties of the congregation that correspond to the duties of the minister? How are you to respond to his example? To his teaching?
2. Is the call to dedication in verses 14-16 limited to the minister? Which of these commands to whole-hearted dedication to the Lord's service is most striking to you?
3. In light of this sermon, how can you be praying for your pastors?