






Session 3.3
The Preacher's Devotions,
Reading, and Time
Management

Devotions, Reading, and Time Management

Devotions, Reading, and Time Management

- Some of what Spurgeon accomplished
 - Spurgeon started preaching at 17 years old
 - By the time he turned 20, he had preached over 600 times
 - Spurgeon preached for 38 years and died at age 57
 - For much of his ministry, he weekly sermons were published in 20 different languages and sold 20,000 copies per week
 - His collected and published sermons fill 63 volumes and is the largest set of books ever published by a single author
 - Just recently a two-volume set of his previously unpublished sermons was released
 - He wrote over 140 other books besides his sermons
 - He pastored a congregation of 4,000 members



Devotions, Reading, and Time Management

- Some of what Spurgeon accomplished
 - Edited a monthly magazine
 - Answered 500 letters per week
 - Read around six books each week, usually of substantial puritan theology
 - Founded and oversaw over 60 organizations
 - Had a pastor's college
 - Regularly counseled what he called difficult cases
 - Had a wife who was near invalid and twin sons
 - He also lived with constant physical pain and criticism and slander
 - And that's not everything that could be said
 - And he did it all without a Macbook or iPhone



Devotions, Reading, and Time Management

- This can be encouraging to relieve a burden
 - Neither you nor I are a Spurgeon
 - So don't try to be Spurgeon



Devotions, Reading, and Time Management

- Spurgeon to his Pastor's College students
 - Gentlemen, I return to my rule — use your own natural voices. Do not be monkeys, but men; not parrots, but men of originality in all things. It is said that the most becoming way for a man to wear his beard is that in which it grows, for both in color and form it will suit his face. Your own modes of speech will be most in harmony with your methods of thought and your own personality. The mimic is for the playhouse, the cultured man in his sanctified personality is for the sanctuary. I would repeat this rule till I wearied you if I thought you would forget it; be natural, be natural, be natural evermore. An affectation of voice, or an imitation of the manner of Dr. Silvertongue, the eminent divine, or even of a well beloved tutor or president will inevitably ruin you. I charge you throw away the servility of imitation and rise to the manliness of originality.
 - (Spurgeon, Charles H.. Lectures to My Students Volume 1 (Kindle Locations 2336-2342). . Kindle Edition.)



Devotions, Reading, and Time Management

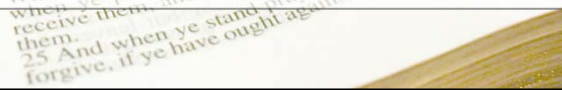
- Paul told Timothy he was responsible for himself
 - “Neglect not the gift that is in thee” (1 Ti 4:14)
 - “Stir up the gift of God, which is in thee” (2 Ti 1:6)
 - “Take heed unto thyself” (1 Ti 4:16)



1 Timothy 4:6-7

If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a **good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine**, whereunto thou hast attained.

But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and **exercise thyself rather unto godliness**.



Devotions, Reading, and Time Management

- Paul's words to Timothy include two keys to being a good minister of Jesus Christ
 - Being nourished up in the words of faith and good doctrine
 - Exercising oneself unto godliness



Devotions, Reading, and Time Management

- To be well nourished means regular intake of proper food
- To exercise yourself means to train yourself, or discipline yourself



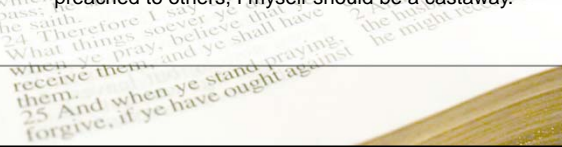
1 Timothy 4:6-7

Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

And every man that striveth for the mastery is **temperate in all things**. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:


But I **keep under my body, and bring it into subjection**: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.



Devotions, Reading, and Time Management

- Practical Suggestions
 - Make the most of the time you have by being a plodder
 - Don't neglect your family
 - Understand who you are and don't try to be someone else
 - Diet and Exercise
 - Personal Finance and Debt
 - When preparing to preach, don't try to say everything





Session 4.1
Book Introductions:
Preparing The Church
For Exposition


JOHN 16:13-15

Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will **guide you into all truth**; for He shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak; and **He will Shew you things to come**. He shall glorify Me; for He shall receive of mine, and **shew it unto you**. All things that the Father hath are mine; therefore said I, that He shall take of mine and **shew it unto you**.

BOOK INTRODUCTIONS

Personal Preparation


- PRAYER



BOOK INTRODUCTIONS

Personal Preparation


- REPETITIOUS READING



BOOK INTRODUCTIONS

Preparation for Preaching


- Author



BOOK INTRODUCTIONS

Preparation for Preaching


- Hearers / Readers



BOOK INTRODUCTIONS

Preparation for Preaching

- Date / Timeframe / Environment




BOOK INTRODUCTIONS

Preparation for Preaching

CONTEXT...

CONTEXT...


CONTEXT!



BOOK INTRODUCTIONS

Presentation


- Redemptive Focus
(Fallen Condition Focus)



BOOK INTRODUCTIONS

Presentation

- Application
(Why would God want the Church today to know the content of this book?)



BOOK INTRODUCTIONS

Presentation

“One must first process the text for original meaning and then principilize the text for current applicability”

