

Believe It—Behave It

Description

[RG AUDIO 122713](#)

1 Timothy 4:9-16

Saint Francis of Assisi is often quoted as having said, “Preach the gospel at all times. If necessary, use words.” Paul is coaching young Timothy on the art of Christian leadership and ministry. He implores him to devote himself to the areas of his giftedness: to read the Scriptures aloud, teach, and preach. But he also admonishes him to carefully set an example in the way he lives. He is to be careful to teach godly living. He is to set an example of speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity.

One of the greatest gifts we can give someone is the gospel. To share with others the life-giving, life-changing Word of God is a tremendous responsibility and privilege. However, for it to be most effective, it must be lived out. For our family and friends to see the gospel lived out in us is to provide a walking, talking model of the difference the gospel can make in a person’s life. Our life should match our doctrine. “Our behaving must match our believing.”

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Date Created

2013/12/27