



Equipping Shepherds

Titus 2:7-8

Titus 2:7-8 "... in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified, sound in speech which is beyond reproach, so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us."

Four Characteristics of a Good Pastor

1. Good Pastors Are Role Models

Verse 7 - "in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds..." (Phil 3:17; Col 1:11)

Pastoral Confessions:

- We can end up studying the Bible for others without applying it to ourselves.
- We have a hard time opening up about our struggles and failures.
- We can feel lonely in the midst of a crowd.
- We constantly run the risk of being drained.
- We battle discouragement and even depression.
- We feel a lot of pressure for our churches to be "successful."

2. Good Pastors Teach Sound Doctrine

Verse 7 - "... in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine..."

How do we know if our doctrine is pure (i.e. correct, without corruption)?

- A. We should rely on the historical, grammatical method of interpreting the Bible.
- B. We should stand on the historic, orthodox doctrines of the Christian faith.
- C. We should engage in healthy, edifying discussion with a gracious attitude.

3. Good Pastors Understand the Dignity of Their Calling

Verse 7 - "... with purity in doctrine, dignified..."

4. Good Pastors Are Skilled Communicators

Verse 8 - "... sound in speech which is beyond reproach, so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us."