

# When No One Is There To Lead You

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 – 1 Timothy 4:12-15

No matter what... don't stop.

**Navajo Van – Don't Stop... Well, whether I was on the van or not, she never stopped.**

## Keep your eye on the Ball

### 1 Timothy 4:13

In Paul's absence (OR)

In the absence of guidance, clarity, direction, and leadership... give attention to 3 things

Maybe there was no parent, or there is no guidance, no one to talk to, no one to learn from...

**You have more than you think.**

**These seasons of walking alone are REVEALING & REFINING.**

**Postcard Christianity:** As amazing as it is to see, it's better to be there in person.

**J. Hudson Taylor, George Mueller, George Whitfield**

There is a point where you will be so encouraged by reading you will want to be doing the doing.

**Joshua 1:5b** "I will not leave you nor forsake you."

***Is that a beautiful postcard or can you feel the sand beneath your toes?***

(It's either a sentimental Hallmark saying or the truth)

### Psalm 119:105

Your Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Your Word **IS** a lamp unto **my** feet and a light unto **my** path.

Keep your Eye on the ball

### **Attention:**

(Voluntary vs. involuntary) Breathing vs. Parenting. I am quite fond of breathing... in fact, I plan on doing it for the rest of my life, but, that is involuntary.

**To draw unto one's self. To turn your mind and attention toward an object, subject, or person. (You must turn the steering wheel)**

**First-time parents – all in, pictures, videos, clothes, toys, cuddles.**

**So often the disciples would follow up and ask Jesus to further explain the parables.**

- Don't let worship be something you used to do
- Don't let the Bible be something that you used to study
- Don't just tell stories of what God did... but what God is doing.

***People used to ask, "What is the Lord doing in your life?"***

**What makes progress possible?** (Give attention to...)

Give attention to...

## READING

**Reading:** Knowing, to know again.

To read and to read out loud *with attentiveness*

**Philippians 3:1** Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. For me to write the same things to you *is* not tedious, but for you *it is* safe.

**The power is in the Word – not the story we tell about the Word.**

(Read John 3:16)

Would you read your Bible during your lunch break? Carry it to class?

**Lawyer** when I had to give testimony “I haven’t seen one of those in a long time.”

## Exhortation

**Encouragement, comfort AND rebuke, correct, or warning.**

A healthy church will not just cheer you on **NOR** will they beat you up...

A healthy church is made up of pastors **and** people who are committed to God’s Word and leading each other closer to the Lord on a personal level.

*You cannot have a Biblical church without Biblical preaching. But make no mistake. A church that has biblical preaching but the people are not doing biblical living would struggle to be called a biblical church.*

## Doctrine

**Doctrine:** teachings or foundational truths to our faith.

**You do not have to be a theologian but you do need to know theology**

**Theology** is the study of God himself and how He is involved with creation.

**Listen, learn, live.**

One of the reasons so many Christians, rather than running their race, flop around like a fish out of water is their attentiveness to God’s Word. – ***Man shall not live by bread alone but by every Word of God.*** – He will nudge you through His Word (Mowing the lawn, don’t store up in barns)

Now, when it comes to doctrine there is one last facet worth learning.

**Doctrine: did-as-kal-ee-ah**

**Carries with it a sense of sharing doctrine – at any level and at any capacity... share.**

**Compound interest:** You are not adding into but the growth comes out of.

*How did the faith of 12 disciples turn into a global following? Compound interest.*

Imagine if everyone brought one person into the kingdom each year.

The church would double every 12 months.

The **Kingdom** would double every 12 months.

**Keep your eye on the ball**

**Keep moving forward**

**1 Timothy 4:14**

Feeding the horses, Boon... it fell to the back of my mind.

Do not neglect = neglect can happen... slow decay or erosion, rust, rot

**The gift that is in you... not a talent “they are so gifted”**

*A Friend – I know your called/gifted because you don't make that much sense*

Infallible gifts are used by fallible people.

First time preaching the gospel – pastor Steve family fest skate demo

**2 Timothy 1:6** Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

**Two applications for prophecy**

**More prophecy in the church**

**1 Corinthians 14:1** Pursue love, and desire spiritual *gifts*, but especially that you may prophesy.

Warning - There are wacky people doing wacky things!

- Circuses are exciting
- False is false
- Prophecy is of no private interpretation  
(Date setting, money asking, scripture twisting crazies)  
**(Passion + Articulation does not = accuracy)**

**Elders laid hands on (An assembly of aged men)**

Not too quick – in promotion

Not too quick in judgment – gossip train. (shoot first ask questions later)

Yes, in acknowledgment (Publicly affirming what has been publicly observed)

Theologically it is God through them – but it is God through THEM

**Acts 6:5-7a** And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly...

**1 Timothy 4:15-16**

Meditate – give yourself entirely to them.

Entirely given to - Give entirely (or wholly)

**Lev. 6:22-23** (Offering was wholly consumed)

...it is a statute forever to the LORD. It shall be wholly burned. “For every grain offering for the priest shall be wholly burned. It shall not be eaten.”

**Numbers 32:11-12** 'Surely none of the men who came up from Egypt, from twenty years old and above, shall see the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, because they have not **wholly** followed Me, 'except Caleb the son of Jephunneh, the Kenizzite, and Joshua the son of Nun, for they have **wholly** (entirely) followed the LORD.'

### **Entirely to them – to place yourself inside of, to absorb into.**

He was to devote his life wholly to this work. He was to have no other grand aim of living. His time, attention, and talents, were to be absorbed in the proper duties of the work. He was not to make that subordinate and tributary to any other purpose, nor was he to allow any other object to interfere with the appropriate duties of that office. He was not to live for money, fame, or pleasure; not to devote his time to the pursuits of literature or science for their own sakes; not to seek the reputation of an elegant or profound scholar; not to aim to be distinguished merely as an accomplished gentleman, or as a skillful farmer, teacher, or author. Whatever was done in any of these departments, was to be wholly (entirely) consistent with the direction, "be in these things." Be absorbed in the appropriate duties of the ministerial office. – Albert Barnes

**All of life is to bend to this single purpose.**

In such a way that is obvious... *that your progress may be evident to all.*

Sports... those to practice train and lift... not to be seen will be seen

- **At the professional level, it's not talent but work that separates.**

We are not supposed be half-hearted believers with postcard faith.

It doesn't mean you get louder, you go deeper.

At all costs, you let God into every area of your life.

Keep Your Eye On The Ball

Keep Your Momentum Moving Forward

**Keep An Eye On Yourself**

**Take Heed:** inventory, camping and didn't grab my clothes.

You don't have to figure out the future, you have to continually lay the foundation.

### **Consider for a moment what Timothy was about to set out to accomplish.**

- You better watch what is going on **around** you.
- You better watch what is going on **inside** of you.

**Proverbs 4:26-27** Ponder the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established. Do not turn to the right or the left; remove your foot from evil.

### **Meditate: so much noise in the world... headphones**

No gurus needed

Ear Buds

Average American spends 6-8 hours a day on media  
(Multi-streaming drives me crazy)

- One the chaos (maybe I'm getting old – if it's too loud)
- The Chains... I know this, it is highly unlikely that you will hear the Spirit.

**You can't hear people  
You can't hear the Holy Spirit**

**Small still voice – all the commotion and then God**

**Save yourself and those who hear you?**

**Footprints through the concrete – It will be finished the way God intends**

Christianity is not a card you carry in your wallet, it is the core conviction of all you do and the description of who you are.)

Have you ever known someone who loved The Lord too much?

**It's HIM!!! - Jude 1:24-25**