



Practical Christian Living

How to Be a Godly Role-Model

Icebreaker: *Who in your life has been a role model to you?*

Philippians 4:8-9

What three things does Paul say to “put into practice?”

- Whatever they have learned, or received, or heard from him

Why might that be a dangerous statement for someone to make?

- You may have done something you shouldn't have done.

How confident was Paul in his example to the Philippian Christians?

- He was extremely confident to make a statement like that.

What things in our lives might keep us from making a statement like that?

Many famous sports figures and musicians have tried to say they aren't a role-model to anyone. Whether they like it or not, someone is watching them and doing what they say. Everyone has someone watching them and it is very important that we are a good role-model. The old saying goes, “You might be the only Bible someone ever reads.”

How valid is the statement, “You might be on the only Bible someone ever reads?”

How does that statement motivate you to be a godly role-model?

1 Corinthians 11:1

We have all had role-models but it is important that our ultimate role-model is Christ. *Why does Christ provide the perfect role-model for us?*

- He lived a perfect life
- He taught many things we need to learn to live a better life

How does the question “What Would Jesus Do?” Help us be a Christ-like role-model for others?

In 1 Corinthians 4:16 Paul urges the Corinthians to imitate him. When you imitate someone you mirror what they do. If they are doing bad things you will do bad things. If they do good things and you imitate them you will end up doing bad things. That is the reason we all need to surround ourselves with positive Christian people because it rubs off on us whether we like it or not.

Steps to Being a Godly Role-Model:

- 1) Know Christ—study his words and teachings, his actions and attitudes.

Philippians 2:4

How does studying the Bible help us imitate and have the same attitude as Christ?

2) Spend time with mature Christians—This is what Paul was urging them to do in Corinth. See **1 Corinthians 4:17**. *What was Timothy going to come and do in Corinth?*

- Remind them of a life suitable to being a Christian
- Remind them of the teachings/gospel

3) Put it into practice—As Paul said in Philippians 4:8-9 it is not enough to know how to be a godly role-model. You have to put it into practice. You have to do it. It takes action.

You have to be willing to do some things and make some decisions that are unpopular with some people. *What is an example of an unpopular decision a Christian might have to make?*

Integrity is often defined as how you live when you think no one is looking. To be a godly role-model you have to have an ordered and holy private life. Seeming to be a good Christian on Sunday morning for an hour or two is not difficult. Everyone may think you have it all together. *Why is it harder to put it into practice the rest of the week outside the church building?*

What kinds of things help us live our faith out when not “at the building?”

- Godly people, scripture, prayer

Application:

What in your life is keeping you from being the role-model you know you need to be?

What experiences in your life would be beneficial for someone else to learn from? How are you going to share that with someone else?

What lessons do you wish someone had taught you about having a relationship with God that you should pass on to someone else?

What was the best quality of the role-models you have had in your life? What do you think is your best “role-model” quality?

Prayer—That God could help each of us influence the circle of people we contact on a regular basis and to be alert and on guard that people are watching us.