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# THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

**1 Timothy 4:11-16**  
**Lesson #14**  
**Attending to self**  
**07/23/2023**

1

*1 Timothy 4*

“11 Prescribe and teach these things. 12 Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe. 13 Until I come, give attention to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation and teaching. 14 Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed upon you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery. 15 Take pains with these things; be absorbed in them, so that your progress may be evident to all.

16 **Pay close attention to yourself**

and to your teaching; persevere in these things; for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.”


2

**GENERAL OBSERVATIONS**

1. We live in a culture that **grades us by how we look, the skills that we have, and what we have accomplished as measured by material wealth and social respect.**
2. The focus of this letter is on Timothy's character and his use of God's gifts, **not on how well he conforms to his culture's values.**

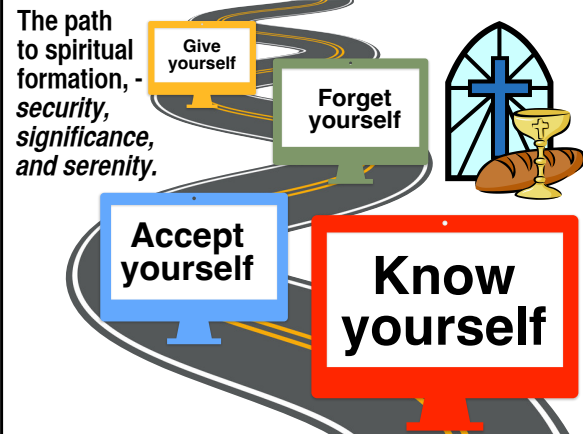
*John 15:4*

“As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you, unless you abide in Me.”



3

The path to spiritual formation, - security, significance, and serenity.



**Know yourself**

4

**Knowing and loving self is not worshiping self, but being a good steward of self.**

*Romans 12:3*

“... I say to every man among you **not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment,**”

*1 Corinthians 2:15*

“but he who is spiritual **appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no man.**”

*1 Corinthians 11:28*

“But **let a man examine himself,** and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.”


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5

**Self audit is needed to appreciate the essence of 1. our blind spots.**

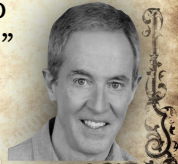
*Proverbs 21:2*

“Every man's way is right in his own eyes,”

<p><b>Others are:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>legalistic</li> <li>angry</li> <li>fearful</li> <li>careless</li> <li>selfish</li> <li>wasteful</li> <li>materialistic</li> </ul>		<p><b>I am:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>disciplined</li> <li>intense</li> <li>cautious</li> <li>flexible</li> <li>conservative</li> <li>generous</li> <li>tasteful</li> </ul>
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6

“A fundamental attribution error is attributing others bad behavior to their character, while attributing our bad behavior to our circumstances.”



Andy Stanley


7

**Self audit is needed to appreciate the essence of 2. the Body of Christ.**

**We need to get comfortable with diversity if we are to be the “Body of Christ”.**

*Romans 12:4-5*

“just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.”



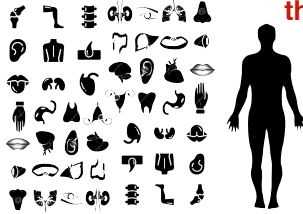
**This is how we bear witness to our alien status in this world and our unique hope in the faith.**

8

**Community is a part of God’s design and calls for input from all of us.**

**The church is NOT the Body Parts of Christ.**

**The church is the Body of Christ, but only when the pieces function as they should, synced with one another and the head.**

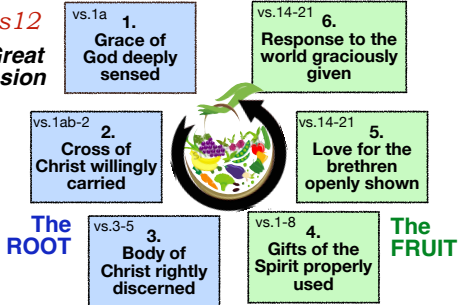


**The body is greater than the sum of its parts.**

9

**Self audit is needed to appreciate the essence of 3. our calling.**

*Romans 12*  
**Paul’s Great Commission**



**The ROOT**

- vs.1a 1. Grace of God deeply sensed
- vs.1ab-2 2. Cross of Christ willingly carried
- vs.3-5 3. Body of Christ rightly discerned

**The FRUIT**

- vs.14-21 6. Response to the world graciously given
- vs.14-21 5. Love for the brethren openly shown
- vs.1-8 4. Gifts of the Spirit properly used

10

*1 Timothy 4*

“11 Prescribe and teach these things. 12 Let no one look down on **your youthfulness**, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe.”

**Self Audit check list:**

**1. Look at character, not the superficial optics of this world.**

“A good character carries with it the highest power of causing a thing to be believed.”

*Aristotle*

11

*1 Corinthians 1*

“27 but God has chosen the **foolish things** of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the **weak things** of the world to shame the things which are strong, 28 and the **base things** of the world and the **despised**, God has chosen, the **things that are not**, that He might nullify the things that are, 29 that no man should boast before God.”

- God chooses from **those who were not impressive from the world’s perspective.**
- He does so, not to make them impressive to the world, **but to authenticate the nature of true peace, power, and hope.**

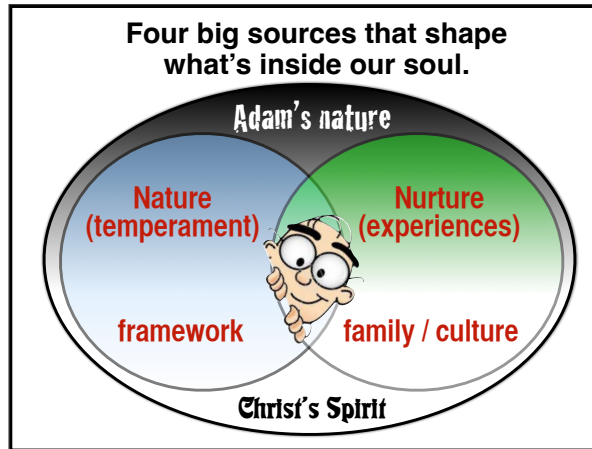
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*1 Samuel 16:7*  
 “for God sees not as man sees, for **man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.**”

*Matthew 23:27*  
 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the **outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness.**”

*Philippians 3:7*  
 “But whatever things were gain to me, those things **I have counted as loss** for the sake of Christ. ”

13



14

• **MBTI Myers Briggs Temperament Indicator**

**KNOWERS**

**Objective (analyzing)**  
 Faith must be intellectually convincing.

**Subjective (socializing)**  
 Faith must be socially connecting.

**DOERS**

**Action (running)**  
 Faith must be action compelling.

**Achievement (winning)**  
 Faith must be legally conforming.

15

*1 Timothy 4*  
 “13 Until I come, give attention to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation and teaching. 14 **Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you**, which was bestowed upon you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery. 15 Take pains with these things; be absorbed in them, so that your progress may be evident to all.”

**Self Audit check list:**

**2. Look at calling, not selfish ambitions.**

*1 Corinthians 12:7*  
 “But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.”

16

*1 Corinthians 12:4-6*  
 “Now there are **varieties of gifts**, but the same Spirit. And there are **varieties of ministries**, and the same Lord. And there are **varieties of effects**, but the same God who works all things in all persons.”

Motivations “gifts” <b>Power</b> Rom.12	Ministries “functions” <b>Platform</b> Eph.4	Manifestation “effects” <b>Purpose</b> 1 Cor.12
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17

**Proper use of God’s gifts:**  
*Romans 12*  
 “1 I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual **service of worship.**”

**1. is a stewardship sacrifice of worship.**

2 And do not be **conformed to this world**, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

**2. are not to be viewed as the world does.**

3 For through the grace given to me I say to every man among you **not to think more highly of himself than he ought** to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

**3. are not to service our self esteem.**

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### Proper use of God's gifts:

*Romans 12*

"6 And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let each exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, **according to the proportion of his faith**; 7 if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; 8 or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness."

#### 4. **are to respect both natural & spiritual abilities and responsibilities.**

- Do you have a **passion** for it?
- Does the church **affirm** it?
- Are others **edified** by it?

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*1 Timothy 4*

"16 Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; *persevere in these things*; for as you do this you will **ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.**"

Are we saved by "doing"?

Paraphrase:

*Give special attention to your witness to and your orthodox teaching of the Gospel, because this is key to **assurance** of the salvation that it offers to all who receive it.*

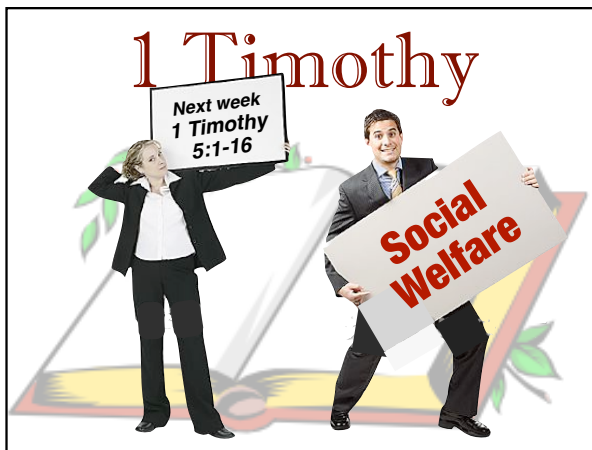


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## Challenges

1. Are you committed to **see yourself and others as made in God's Image**?
2. Do you respect **the inner and outer (natural) platform** of godly ministry?
3. Do you know your place in the **Body of Christ, and put your best foot forward, without losing your balance or kicking your neighbor**?
4. Are you in this **through thick and thin**?

21



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