

Effective Ministering 103

Effective Ministry

February 12, 2012

2Tim. 4:5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

Watch thou in all things

Mark 14:34 And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch.

Mark 14:37 And he cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, Simon, sleepest thou? couldest not thou watch one hour?

Mark 14:38 Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak.

- Sleep can be an escape for people that do not want to face certain issues and problems. They would rather sleep than deal with what is really going on around them.
- You cannot watch effectively with your eyes closed. You can't see nor prepare for what is coming if you are not paying attention.
- Jesus told them to watch so they won't mess things up. When we are attentive to what we are doing and saying, we can prevent unwanted occurrences.

Endure afflictions

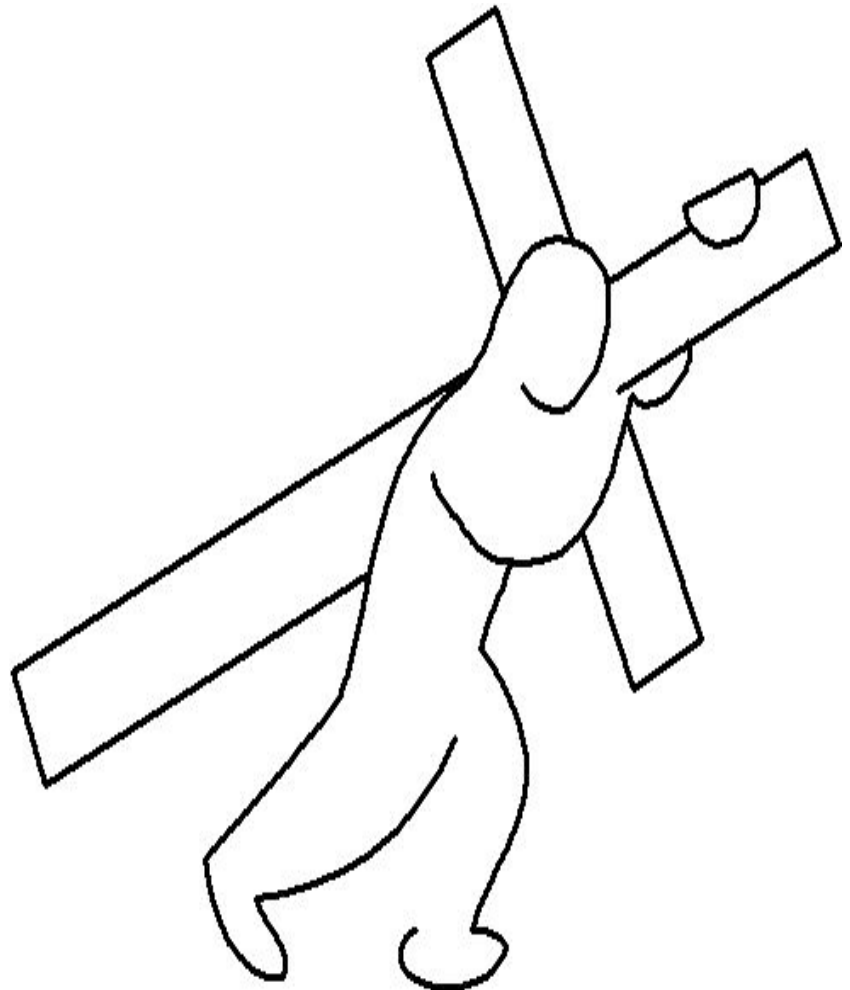
Psa. 34:19 Many ARE THE AFFLICTIONS OF THE RIGHTEOUS: BUT THE LORD delivereth him out of them all.

There will be test and trials. We must learn to accept the tests and pass them. This builds patience so we can minister to others more effectively. **James 1:3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.**

When we are tested, we must remain content. Though we desire things to be

better, we don't want to make a bad choice in the process. This is how patience works in our favor. Once we learn patience, we can encourage others to wait instead of moving too soon.

Psa. 30:5 For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. David is letting us know that God may chasten us for a moment, but he will smile upon us again. We must believe this to teach this. It always gets better for those that truly love God.



Do the work of an evangelist

1Th. 2:1 You yourselves know, dear brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not a failure.

1Th. 2:2 You know how badly we had been treated at Philippi just before we came to you and how much we suffered there. Yet our God gave us the courage to declare his Good News to you boldly, even though we were surrounded by many who opposed us.

1Th. 2:3 So you can see that we were not preaching with any deceit or impure purposes or trickery.

1Th. 2:4 ¶ For we speak as messengers who have been approved by God to be entrusted with the Good News. Our purpose is to please God, not people. He is the one who examines the motives of our hearts.

1Th. 2:5 Never once did we try to win you with flattery, as you very well know. And God is our witness that we were not just pretending to be your friends so you would give us money!

1Th. 2:6 As for praise, we have never asked for it from you or anyone else.

1Th. 2:7 As apostles of Christ we certainly had a right to make some demands of you, but we were as gentle among you as a mother feeding and caring for her own children.

1Th. 2:8 We loved you so much that we gave you not only God's Good News but our own lives, too.

- WE should boldly declare the truth no matter who is around. Even if it upsets those we consider friends, the truth is God's not ours, so we must preach it.
- WE should preach without deceit or trickery. If we focus on pleasing God and not people, we will never have impure purposes.
- WE should never embrace people just to get money. Giving people a spiritual pass when we know their behavior is ungodly for the sake of money is witchcraft. We are putting them in danger of hell for our own benefit.

Summary

Effective ministry starts where Paul left off. Watching, enduring, and working. If we expect to effectively minister to our families, each other, and the world, we must do these things. Our world is suffering because most Christians are not effective ministers. Whether in their homes or abroad, true ministry has been compromised because of money, positions, and selfish motives. We have to get back to basics so we can feed others and fulfill the charge of Paul's message to the early church.

