

“Christian Role Models”

⇒ **Text:** 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

⇒ **Intro:**

- o There is a need for positive role models in the world today.
 - o Some of the people our young and old idolize are repulsive.
 - Many are in the entertainment or sport industries and are nothing but fornicators, queers, or drug addicts.
 - o The truth is, as Christians we ought to be the role models for others to follow.
 - Now, we may never be famous or have great power.
 - But, we can have a tremendous influence for the Lord.
 - o Whether you like it or not, you are a role model!
 - Either your life makes it desirable to be a Child of God, or you make it attractive to be a follower of the Devil.
 - Which one you are is up to you.
 - o Paul, here, gives us some insight into what a true Christian role model really is.
 - My prayer is that the Lord will use this message to speak to our hearts and will make the right kind of role models out of us.
 - o Notice with me these **Insights Into Christian Role Models**.
- ⇒ **I. V. 6 - THEY HAD EXPERIENCED THE LORD**
- o **A. Received The Witness** - Heeded what they saw!
 - You see one's walk is not without effect.

- o **B. Received The Word** - Heeded what they heard!
 - The Word points to the Lord
 - **See John 5:39;**
 - **See 1 Cor. 1:18; 21**
 - o **C. Redirected Their Walk** –
 - They became followers!
 - This is the true test of salvation - a changed life!
 - o The Apostle Paul called others to follow him –
 - **See 1 Cor. 4:16;**
 - **See I Cor. 11:1;**
 - **See Phil. 3:17 –**
 - o Is your life and my life of the quality that we can say, "Follow me, for I am an example of what true Christianity really is?"
 - o We ought to be able to!
- ⇒ **II. Vs.7-9 - THEY WERE EXAMPLES TO ALL MEN**
- o **A. Vs.3, 7 In Their Works** –
 - Ensamples = Engraved mark, a true pattern –
 - **Illustration:** Jesus was an example of the Father- **See Hebrews 1:3)**
 - o The Thessalonians in their works were a perfect pattern of saved men!
 - We need to ask ourselves - **Are we examples to all men by our works?**
 - o The Thessalonians were Christian role models - **In Their Witness**
 - o **B. Vs.8-9a In Their Witness** –

- They spread the word by mouth and by method –
 - They were perfect witnesses –
 - **In Mark 16:15**, – We are commanded to “**Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.**”
 - The Apostle Paul tells us our conversation should “**becometh the gospel**”
 - **See Phil 1:27!**
 - We need to ask ourselves - **Are we examples to all men by our witness?**
 - The Thessalonians were Christian role models – **In Their Walk**
 - **C. V.9b In Their Walk** –
 - They turned away from idols!
 - They were the perfect example in their changed life
 - The word of God tells us as result of salvation we should have changed lives.
 - **See 2 Cor. 5:17.**
 - We need to ask ourselves - **Are we examples to all men by our walk?**
 - The Thessalonians were Christian role models – by the fact **They were expecting the Lord**
- ⇒ **III. V.10 THEY WERE EXPECTING THE LORD**
- **Expecting the Lord** -
 - **A. Produces Patience** –

- **See Rom. 8:25** –
 - We can endure and labor for Jesus knowing it will end with us in glory!
 - **Colossians 3:4**, tells us, “When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.”
- **Expecting the Lord** –
- **B. Produces Personality** –
 - **See 1 John 3:1-3**
 - Looking for Jesus will produce the fruit of holiness and will set you apart as a role model!
 - You can't live in sin if you believe the Lord will return any moment!
- **Expecting the Lord** –
- **C. Produces Perseverance** –
 - Looking for Jesus will cause us to be role models in sticking by the stuff.
 - **Gal. 6:9**, “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”
 - As a Christian you should be aware of the reward and the shortness of the time.
 - Jesus said in **Revelation 22:12**, “**And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.**”

⇒ **Conclusion:**

- o Are you a role model?
- o A perfect pattern of what a Christian is all about?
- o Well, it is never too late to begin!
- o Come now and let Jesus make you into the example that you ought to be!