

A.M. OUTLINE
1/29/2023

"BE IMITATORS OF ... "

(1 Timothy 4:12 - 16)

"Imitate" - copy that; to replicate; mimic; do the same; to follow after the pattern or example.

1. GOD - (Ephesians 5:1) **"Therefore be imitators of God as dear children"**

What is there about God, for us His children, to imitate?

LOVE - (1 John 4:7) **"God is love"** (v11) **"we also ought to love one another"**

GOOD - (Psalm 100:5) **"For the Lord is good ... "**

(Psalm 106:1; Psalm 135:3; 1 Peter 3:13)

GRACIOUS - (Psalm 145:8-9) **"The Lord is gracious** and full of compassion ... "

(Psalm 86:5; Isaiah 55:7; Ephesians 4:32)

Imitate God, but do not "play God."

2. JESUS - (John 13:15-17) **"I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done"**

(Philippians 2:5) **"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus"**

(v7) **"taking the form of a servant"** and (v8) **"He humbled Himself"**

What was the "example" and the "mind of Christ"?

(John 4:34) **"My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, to finish His work"**

(John 8:38) **"not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me"**

(Matthew 20:28) **"did not come to be served, but to serve"**

(Matthew 26:39) **"not as I will, but as You will"**

(Acts 10:38) **"who went about doing good"**

Copy that! (Romans 12:1) **"... that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."**

3. FAITHFUL BRETHREN - (Hebrews 6:11-12) **"We desire that each one of you show the same diligence ... imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises."**

(1 Corinthians 4:16) **"Therefore I urge you, imitate me."**

(1 Corinthians 11:1; Philippians 3:17; 2 Timothy 1:13; 2 Tim. 3:10-12)

(1 Timothy 4:12) **"be an example to the believers"**

(James 5:10-11) **"the prophets ... as an example of suffering and patience"**

4. FAITHFUL CONGREGATIONS - (2 Corinthians 9:1-2) **"your zeal has stirred up the majority"** (1 Thessalonians 1:6-7) **"you became examples to all"**
(1 Thessalonians 2:14) **"For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches"**

5. HOWEVER, DO NOT COPY EVIL - 3 John v11) **"Beloved, do not imitate what is evil"**

(Exodus 23:2) **"You shall not follow a crowd to do evil"**

(Ephesians 4:17-20) (v20) **"But you have not so learned Christ"**