

How to Be a Good Servant of Jesus Christ: Training Yourself for Godliness

1 Timothy 4:6-10

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The purpose in our spiritual discipline:

Romans 8:29, 1 John 3:2 - To be like Christ

How do we achieve this? **1 Timothy 4:7b** - Train yourself for godliness.

How to Be a Good Servant of Jesus Christ

1. Nourish Yourself in God's Word :: v. 6

Being trained in the words of the faith = Being nourished in the words of the faith

Follow godly teaching → Nourish yourself in it → Teach others to do the same

Charles Spurgeon - *"It is blessed to eat into the very soul of the Bible until, at least, you come to talk in Scriptural language, and your spirit is flavored with the words of the Lord, so that your blood is Bibline and the very essence of the Bible flows from you."*

How is this done?

- Your own personal reading of God's Word.
- Studying it and digging deeper into it.
- Memorizing Scripture.
- Meditating on Scripture.
- Talking of it with friends.
- Having accountability partners.
- Attending church services and classes.
- Wednesday services and Sunday evening services.
- Podcasts.
- The books you read.

2. Understand That Godliness Brings the Greatest Good in Your Life :: vv. 7-9

V. 8 - Why am I willing to discipline myself? Because godliness is of value in every way.

The world calls us to nourish ourselves on things that have little to no value, but Christ is of value in every way.

- 1 Timothy 6:5-10
- Hebrews 11:24-26, 35-40

3. Toil and Strive for Godliness :: v. 10

Why do I toil and strive for godliness? Because I know that godliness holds promise both for this life and the life to come.

Philippians 4:11-13 - I have *learned* to be content in every circumstance. How?

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 - Jesus' grace was sufficient for him.

What are some of the disciplines?

Bible intake (listening, reading, meditating, studying, memorizing), prayer, worship, evangelism, serving, stewardship of money and time, fasting, journaling, discernment, perseverance).

How to Fulfill the Disciplines

1. Pray for God's help :: Colossians 1:29
2. Trust that whatever work that you put in will be worth it
3. Keep the destination in mind
4. Cut back on other commitments
5. Find accountability