

CHARACTERISTICS OF A CHRISTIAN MINISTER

1 Thessalonians 2:3-12

First Thessalonians 2 gives a rich description of how a true Christian minister (missionary, pastor, teacher) should look. Too often the bad examples are paraded in the media, while the many solid, Spirit-filled servants of God get little notice. Believers ought to be able to distinguish godly ministers from frauds, and Paul gave several ways to know.

Verse A Godly Minister . . .

2:3. . . . speaks the truth and has pure motives in doing so

2:4. . . . seeks to please God, not people

2:5. . . . does not flatter; is not greedy

2:6. . . . does not seek people's praise

2:7. . . . is gentle, like a mother caring for her children

2:8. . . . loves the believers and willingly shares his life and the gospel with them

2:9. . . . works hard so as not to be a burden to anyone while preaching the Good News

2:10 . . . is pure, honest, and faultless toward the believers

2:11 . . . treats the believers as a good father would treat his own children

2:12 . . . willingly pleads, encourages, and urges the believers to live in a way that God would consider worthy