



Who was your favorite pastor growing up? What about his preaching, teaching and leadership did you most enjoy?

SERMON REVIEW

Why is it especially important for a good pastor to work hard so he grows in godliness?

What does the hard work to grow in godliness look like?

Read 1 Timothy 4:12. Why are these character qualities essential for a good pastor?

What happens when a pastor doesn't pursue these character qualities?

Justin Martyr, writing in the second century about the preaching in the early church said...

On the day called Sunday there is a meeting in one place of those who live in cities or the country, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read as long as time permits. When the reader has finished, the president in a discourse urges and invites us to the imitation of these noble things. Then we all stand up together and offer prayers. And, as said before, when we have finished the prayer, bread is brought, and wine and water, and the president similarly sends up prayers and thanksgivings to the best of his ability, and the congregation assents, saying the Amen. (Cited in Cyril C. Richardson, ed., *Early Christian Fathers* [New York: MacMillan, 1978], 287)



Why was expository preaching (teaching and applying from the word of God) to be the standard preaching in the church?

What can happen with a steady diet of preaching that only uses a few Bible verses for decoration?

Why must a pastor immerse himself in his work and be careful about the distractions of hobbies or laziness?

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Acts 2:42, James 1:22-25. Paul commanded Timothy to devote himself to the public reading and teaching of the Bible. What does God expect of those who are taught the Word?