

THE ANATOMY OF GOD'S WORKER

Introduction: Have you ever wondered how to develop yourself as a worker of God? Paul's second letter to Timothy is a good explanation of how to be a worker of God. (Cf. 2 Tim. 2:15; 2:2)

I. THE EQUIPMENT NEEDED

- A. The gift. (1:6; cf. Rom. 12:3-8)
 - 1. Stir up the gift. (1:6) Stoke the fire. Keep it burning.
 - 2. We are often backwards about our growth.
 - 3. How do you try to grow? Start with the gift.
- B. The grace.
 - 1. It's the great motivator. (1 Tim. 1:12-16)
 - 2. "Be strong in the grace." (2:1)
- C. The word of truth. (2:15)

II. THE METHOD TO USE

- A. To God, the method is just as important as the work. (Eph. 4:15)
- B. Construction (2:15). "Be diligent" implies a lot. (2:2-6)
- C. Character (2:22), to bring people to Christ.
 - 1. Bad character can ruin our ability to be successful.
 - 2. Good character speaks for itself.
 - 3. "Flee youthful lusts"? (2:16, 23, or 19; cf. Matt. 6:1-5)

III. THE WORK TO BE DONE

- A. Equip yourself with the scriptures. (3:14-17)
- B. Preach the word. (4:2)
 - 1. That's the ultimate work.
 - 2. We can be great about accumulating knowledge of God's word.
 - 3. Failing to put it into practice is all too common.
 - 4. The work goes beyond character and diligence. The real work is serving, loving, and saving others.
 - 5. Deuteronomy 6:4-9.

Conclusion: Look at 2 Timothy 4:5 in light of your own ministry (service). Put your name and your gift in there and "Fulfill your ministry." Equip yourself. Identify your gift. Appreciate God's grace. Develop your methods. Be diligent in your work. Know who you can and can't be by fleeing lusts and pursuing righteousness. Know your work. Continue in your study of the word. Be ready to share the message.