

## II. Biblical Leaders Setting Examples

### A. Christ Taught by Example:

Phil 2:7—Christ did not let a desire for *reputation* dictate how He would act.  
1 Peter 2:21—Christ suffered for us, leaving us an example that we should follow.  
John 13:14-15—Christ's example of foot washing is to be followed by us.

### B. Paul Taught by Example:

1 Cor 11:1—Paul told the Church at Corinth to "imitate" him (follow his example) as he imitated Christ.

### C. Admonition to Past and Future Leaders:

Rev 14:13— "Blessed are the dead who die *in the Lord* from now on... that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them..."  
1 Tim 4:12—Be an example to the believers in the word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.  
Phil 4:5—Let your gentleness (moderation, *KJV*) be known to all men.  
1 Tim 3; Titus 1—Qualifications/reputation of deacons and elders.  
Acts 6:3—Deacons are to be of good reputation.  
1 Tim 3:7—Elders must have a good reputation among those outside the Church.  
1 Tim 4:15—Spiritual growth of leaders should be evident to all.

## III. Key Areas of Example and Reputation

### A. Blamelessness or Being Above Reproach:

**Group Question:** What effect would a person with obvious personal faults or sins have on a Church congregation, if he or she were put into a position of leadership?

#### 1. Negative Effect of Poor Example:

Matt 6:2—Christ warned against doing as the hypocrites did—trumpeting their own righteousness.  
Gal 2:13-14—The Jews were hypocrites and even led Barnabas astray for a time.  
2 Thes 3:6—Withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly.

#### 2. Positive Example:

Titus 1:6—Elders are to be blameless.  
v. 7—Elders must be blameless, not self-willed; they must be patient, not known for drinking alcohol, not violent, not greedy for money.  
Luke 1:6—John the Baptist's parents were both righteous before God and blameless.  
1 Cor 1:8—We are to be blameless in the Day of the Lord.  
Phil 2:14-15—Do all things without complaining that you may become blameless and harmless children of God, in this perverse generation.  
1 Tim 5:7—Widows worthy of Church assistance are to be blameless.