"Let no man despise thy youth; but <u>be thou an example</u> OF the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." 1 Timothy 4:12 KJV

**In word** – "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in Thy sight, O LORD, my Strength, and my Redeemer."

**In conversation** – "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for He hath said, 'I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."



**In charity** – "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity. Above all these things put on charity, which is the bond OF perfectness. The end of the commandment is charity out OF a pure heart, and OF a good conscience, and OF faith unfeigned (genuine)."

In spirit – "For ye have not received the spirit OF bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit OF adoption, whereby we cry, 'Abba (Father).' The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together."

**In faith** – "But now the righteousness of God without the Law is manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith OF Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: But without faith it is IMPOSSIBLE to please Him. For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."

In purity – "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as He is pure. Thy Word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it. Every Word of God is pure: He is a shield unto them that put their trust in Him. The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."

The Light of the World must faithfully shine, That knowledge sublime, and wisdom divine, From all those redeemed by Christ's precious Blood, Tells all who will hear, the pathway to God! ~CGP

"Be thou an example OF the believers!" Not FOR, but OF believers. God's Word is His express will FOR your life. We just need to obey it and "He shall direct thy path." Jesus is an example OF that Way FOR His children, because He IS "The Way!" We are to be an example OF believers FOR the lost world around us. Did you ever wonder why some do not want salvation? Perhaps there is no good example OF a believer FOR them to see. We are called Christians, because Christ is the example FOR us to see OF God, and we are the example OF Christ FOR the world to see OF God. Two little prepositions that hold worlds of meaning in their grasp!

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason OF the hope that is in you with meekness and fear." 1 Peter 3:15 KJV