

A CALL TO CHRISTIAN MANHOOD (I Corinthians 16:13)

The admonition that Paul is giving to the church here in Corinth is timeless regarding what true Christian men should be like. This church was a worldly, carnal, backslidden church that Paul had to deal with, in many respects much like the churches of today.

I Corinthians 16:13 Paul first said that men should be *watchful*. This means that men ought to always be on guard as to what we do, what we say, and pay attention to what is happening around us in order to spiritually analyze what is right for ourselves, our families and our church.

I Corinthians 16:13 Paul then says that men ought to *stand fast in the faith* which means we men should be so learned in the scriptures that nothing said, preached or taught could change our minds toward God. Many times family, friends, co-workers, neighbors and others shake the faith of the man.

I Corinthians 16:13 Finally Paul tells the men of the church to *quit ye like men, be strong*. This phrase is taken from one Greek noun and translated to mean *grow up, man up*. Remember that the whole context of this letter is to get these men to be more spiritually mature. See (**Ephesians 4:14**).

CHRISTIAN MEN ATTRIBUTES

I Timothy 4:12 The most important thing for a Christian man is his testimony, his example to others.

A. Colossians 4:6 The first thing we must do to have a godly testimony is to *talk* like a believer.

Ephesians 4:29 To be a strong Christian man does not mean we have to be rough and loud and boisterous. A mature Christian man has control of his mouth. It is always best to think before we talk.

Proverbs 15:1-2; 21:23 A mature Christian man will be able to keep quiet when he needs to, and also realizes that with spiritual insight, a word or two that is given at the right time can do miracles.

B. The second thing that Paul tells Timothy is to be an example in his *conversation or life style*.

Matthew 7:12 Most people will “do unto others before they do unto you”. God says a mature Christian man will treat others in a respectable, courteous, and loving way like we want to be treated.

Romans 12:13; Galatians 6:9-10 Only the very mature Christian man will ever take time to look for people that need help, or will be burdened for the brethren to the point of sacrificially helping them.

II Timothy 2:15; Hebrews 5:12-14 To be a strong Christian man means we must be a bible student.

C. The third thing that Paul told Timothy was to be an example in *charity or love*.

John 13:34-35 God expects a mature Christian man will have such a godly spiritual love for the brethren it will be so evident to people around us that they have no alternative but to see God in you.

Ephesians 6:2; I Timothy 5:8 Real mature Christian men will always take care of their parents.

CHRISTIAN HUSBANDS

Ephesians 5:25 Only the very very strongest most mature Christian men will have a godly marriage.

Philippians 2:5-8 We are to love our wives as Christ loved the church, sacrificially, in humility, as a servant, giving His very best with no regrets.

I Corinthians 7:3; Ephesians 5:28-29 We must nourish and nurture our wives and be willing to love them with every ounce of our being giving them the attention and respect that they deserve.

I Peter 3:7 We must continue to try and understand our wives. It takes patience and listening.

CHRISTIAN FATHERS

Ephesians 6:4; Hebrews 10:24 There is a fine line of provoking good and provoking bad. All we can do is pray, love, teach and train our children to love God but most importantly have a godly testimony.