

# “Paul the Pattern”

## Introduction:

- The Bible says that Christ saved Saul of Tarsus, the chief of sinners, and set him forth as “a pattern” for other believers in this age of grace. 1 Timothy 1:16
- The apostle Paul was a sinner like everyone else, yet his life is said to be a pattern to those who believe on Christ.

## How is Paul a pattern to us today?

### Paul is our pattern in salvation.

1. Jesus Christ was the Son of God, therefore He had no need of salvation, but rather came to be our Savior.
2. But, Paul is a wonderful pattern for anyone who desires God’s salvation.  
1 Timothy 1:13-16
  - Paul was a wicked, blasphemous sinner. vs. 13
  - Yet, because of the grace of our Lord, Paul was gloriously saved. vs. 14-15
  - Paul simply believed on Christ and received everlasting life. vs. 16
3. Anyone who is saved should be able to give the exact same testimony. The details may differ, but these three basic points must be present. Ephesians 2:1-5, 8-9

### Paul is our pattern in service.

- How did Paul serve the Lord?
  - He served the Lord with humility. vs. 19a
  - He continued serving God even in the hard times. vs. 19b
  - He served the Lord by witnessing to others of Christ. vs. 20-21, 25-26
  - He served the Lord, regardless of personal expense. vs. 22-25
  - He served the Lord by studying the Word of God and possessing a steadfast confidence in God’s Word. vs. 27-28, 32

- He served the Lord by **caring** about people and giving unselfishly to **others**. vs. 29-31, 35
- He served the Lord by refusing to be \_\_\_\_\_ . vs. 33-34
- He served the Lord by possessing a vibrant \_\_\_\_\_ life. vs. 36; cf. Romans 1:9; 2 Timothy 1:3
- He served the Lord by \_\_\_\_\_ the people of God. vs. 37-38

### **Paul is our pattern in \_\_\_\_\_.**

1. Christ is our example of absolute morality and total obedience, yet much of Christ's life we do not imitate because Christ lived under a \_\_\_\_\_ dispensation. For example:
  - Christ lived under the Old Testament \_\_\_\_\_. Galatians 4:4-5; cf. Romans 6:14, 7:6; Galatians 2:19, 5:18
  - Christ had to be circumcised the eighth day in a religious ritual. Luke 2:21-24; cf. Galatians 5:6, 6:15
  - Christ observed and kept the \_\_\_\_\_ day (Saturday). Luke 4:16, 31; cf. Romans 14:1-10; Colossians 2:16
  - Christ kept the \_\_\_\_\_ days of the Old Testament law. Luke 22:1-13; cf. Romans 14:5-6; Galatians 4:10-11
  - Christ did not preach to \_\_\_\_\_, but rather to Israel, exclusively. Matthew 10:5-6, 15:24; cf. Colossians 1:28
2. Christ saved the apostle Paul and raised him up as a pattern for Christians in this age. 1 Corinthians 4:16-17, 11:1; Philippians 3:17, 4:9; 2 Timothy 2:2, 3:10, 14
3. In 1 Thessalonians 1:5-7 we see this principle again.
  - Paul \_\_\_\_\_ these people to Jesus Christ. vs. 5a
  - They observed Paul's \_\_\_\_\_. vs. 5b
  - They followed Paul's \_\_\_\_\_. vs. 6
  - They, themselves, became \_\_\_\_\_ to others. vs. 7