“We Have Fixed Our Hope on the Living God”

Intro: All thanks to God for He has not left the church wondering as to what makes a _______________ true and _______________ for as the Apostle Paul instructs Timothy not only are pastors instructed in their primary ministry but through the same instruction the church learns what it is that makes a pastor true ___ ___________ and His church.

I. The ___________ minister’s true ________________ consists of:

A. Didactic teaching, where the pastor teaches the Word of God and is constant in reminding the people of ___________ _____________.

B. Faithful service unto Christ alone, which consists of _______________ the Word of Christ. The minister faithfully ministers to Christ’s church only as he pronounces the ___________ of God. Then the minister, being true to Christ Jesus, will be a _______________ _______________ of Christ Jesus.

C. Diligent _______________ so as to attain and grow in _______________ theology. He must always be diligently learning of God through His Word, rightly dividing it so he may _______________ the _______________ of God through the preaching of His Word to Christ’s church.

D. A constant _______________ of myths, the mystical, dreams, _______________ and every other thing born of the unregenerate mind. The minister who serves Christ does not give himself, his energies, his mind and intellect away, but sets himself apart as holy unto God. He puts off the fluid distractions of the world by _______________ ____ the concrete truth of ____________.

E. A constant _______________ of self in submission to Christ for the purpose of ever growing ___ _______________. This will affect his personal life and the life of the entire congregation.

F. Attention to the disciplines of godliness which have both immediate and eternal results. The true minister of the gospel is no slacker when it comes to _______________ for he understands the profound affect his discipline in godliness has on his daily life, his ministry to the church, and the _______________ it has on ____ who hope in the Christ of glory!

G. Faithfulness and full _______________ of the Word of God – which means, the ministers _______________ and preaches the gospel of God.
H. Laborious striving. His work is exhausting to the point of agony. His ministry is one of __________ engagement and his rest from this ministry of spiritual __________ will come only when he sees his Savior face to face.

I. A __________ and loving __________ placed entirely upon the Living God who gave His Son for the salvation of men. The true minister, with his hope fixed upon his Living God, ministers to the church as one __________ only of the __________ reward.

J. A __________ __________ in the God who is kind to His enemies, who loves His enemies, has given His Son demonstrating His saving merciful love toward all peoples. In this the pastor is secured in his hope knowing the Living __________ will __________ __________ him.

1. Further, this fixed hope assures the pastor of success in his ministry, that as he imitates the godliness of God before all men so will __________ __________ be made __________ to all, and especially to believers.

K. The ongoing bold announcement of the gospel tempered with __________, and the courageous pronouncements of God and His Word, always seasoned with __________.

Closing: The true minister’s true __________ is defined by God and God alone. As the church is __________, it is Christ who directs the under-shepherd’s ministry.

Let every pastor give himself to the __________ of Christ by being a good servant of Christ, for then the church will have a good pastor. And let every believer consider the true calling of the pastor that they will come under true ministry as Christ’s calls them to. And let everyone who has never believed in Christ, come to Him in faith believing, and He will provide a pastor for you. Christ loves His church, and He gave some as pastor-teachers! Fix your __________ the Living __________!

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