

Monday, April 27, 2015 - If I died tomorrow...

I am not a fan of the movie "It's a Wonderful Life" but it does provide an interesting opportunity for us to reflect on what our corner of the world would be like if we were no longer around and others were not influenced by our lives.

Hebrews 9:27 reminds us that, "...it is appointed unto men once to die..." but prior to that time we are to be, "...the salt of the earth...the light of the world..." If we fail to live in the manner God demands of us, our lives will be classified as "good for nothing" regardless the secular success we realize. However, a life lived in accordance with God's will allow our "light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

We all must ask the question, if I die tomorrow, what kind of example have I been? Have others benefited or been hindered by my life?

Has my life been indicative of a faithful Christian? Have I been showing the world what it means to be a Christian? Have I been showing babes in Christ what maturity means as a disciple? Is my example helping or hindering discipleship in others?

Is my example conducive to church growth? Do I offering a noble pattern of faithful church attendance? Do I set a good example of developing one's abilities for Christ? Do I provide a worthy model of involvement in service to the Lord and His Church? Is my attitude of service to give praise to God or am I after the glory of men? Is my example helping or hindering the progress of the church?

Is my example worthy of emulation? Would you want a child or new Christian to follow your example? Not just the way you are at church but how you conduct your life "away" from the saints. If every member provided the same example as you:

Would the church be strong?

Would the church be growing?

Would the church have service on Sunday and Wednesday nights?

Would the church even exist?

Is your example helping or hindering the cause of Christ?

Who we are as an example to others is a very serious subject and one that should cause serious introspection on our part...

We need to strive to apply Paul's words in our life...

"...be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity" 1 Tim. 4:12

You cannot escape being an example to others. Your only choice is what kind of example you will be. Will you be an example worth following?