

profession; it is a burning call. The impulse to preach comes from God! Paul is a shining example. Galatians 1:15-16; Romans 1:1. The Old Testament also has many strong examples: Moses, Joshua, Jeremiah, Gideon. The preacher must be sent forth from God. Romans 10:15.

2. The preacher should improve the channel (his personality).

- a) **An unbroken fellowship with God.**
 - i) Prayer and meditation. Psalm 1.
 - ii) Live up to your message. A holy life, keep time, gravity, etc.
- b) **Continually learning.**
 - i) **The Word of God, good books and commentaries.**
 - Organised study time. (Learn off by heart.)
 - Get "food" for yourself.
 - Get "food" for others.
 - Conferences and seminars.
 - Listen to good preaching.
 - ii) **Learn from life around you.**
 - See and read about how people live, the problems they face, etc.
 - "Open your eyes everywhere".
- c) **Develop natural gifts.**

Every person has natural gifts, e.g. a good memory, music, song, "ability with words", to lead worship, to give an appeal, etc. All gifts can be developed by work, training and discipline.

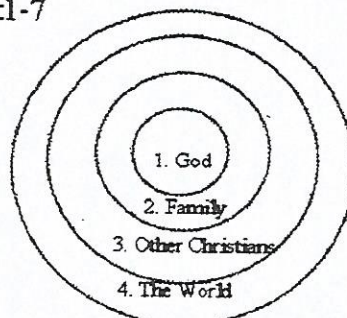
- d) **He must maintain bodily health and fitness.**

Physical health and fitness will add to mental acuteness and vitality. Good health promotes effective speech.

Therefore:

- i) Eat healthily and not too much.
- ii) Exercise, walk or run and enjoy nature that God has freely provided.
- iii) Take time off for family life, hobbies, etc. (a day, a week, holidays, etc.)
1 Timothy 3:1-7

Priorities:



- e) **He must be completely dependant upon the Holy Spirit.**