

SOME PATTERS IN THE SCRIPTURES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The most important factor in the perfecting of our younger generation is to provide them with proper patterns. The following patterns have powerful examples of the highest virtues ever lived out on this earth. If five minutes a day are spent to read one chapter, and if five chapters are read each week, in only 40 weeks a reader can personally view the greatest patterns that can bring much inspiration and encouragement.

Genesis 37 – 50	Joseph
Exodus 1 – 19	Moses
Joshua 1 – 6	Joshua
Ruth 1 – 4	Ruth
1 Samuel 1 – 8	Samuel
1 Samuel 16 – 2 Samuel 24	David
2 Crónicas 1 – 2	Solomon
2 Crónicas 33 – 35	Josiah
Esther 1 – 10	Esther
Daniel 1 – 6	Daniel and his companions
Ezra 1 – 10	Zorobabel y Ezra
Nehemiah 1 – 7	Nehemiah
Luke 1 – 24	Jesus in His humanity
John 1 – 21	Jesus in His divinity
Acts 1 – 28	The apostles

Aproximately 204 chapters

The entire *Life-study of First Thessalonians*, message Thirteen is very good on the matter of setting patterns before the believers. The same principle applies to new ones in the church as well as young believers. Here's a brief quote taken from that message:

PRESENTING A PATTERN

To give the new believers and young ones a lot of teaching is not the proper way to take care of them. The proper way to foster them is to show them a pattern. By showing them a pattern you water them, supply them, nourish them, and cherish them. This is fostering. If you find that your experience is somewhat lacking, point the new believers to different people in the Bible, for

example, to ones such as Enoch, Noah, Abraham, and David in the Old Testament and Peter, John, Paul, and Timothy in the New Testament. We can present the lives of Bible characters in such a way as to foster the growth of the young ones.

If we give too much teaching to new ones and young ones, we shall damage them. Every mother knows that one of the most important matters in the raising of children is proper feeding. Caring for children is ninety percent a matter of feeding and ten percent a matter of teaching. This also should be our practice in caring for new believers in the church. We must learn to have ninety percent feeding and ten percent teaching. Feeding involves the presenting of patterns either from the Bible or from church history. By reading the biographies of saints throughout the ages, we nourish ourselves and experience a kind of fostering. The point here is that the best way to feed others and foster them is to give them a proper pattern. If there is no pattern, there can be no fostering. Only by having a pattern can we feed others.

In the book of 1 Thessalonians Paul was not preaching himself. Rather, he was feeding his spiritual children with his own living of Christ. This means that Paul's way of living was used to feed his spiritual children. This was the reason he emphasized his coming to the Thessalonians, his preaching, his way of handling the word of God, and his manner of living. (*Life-study of First Thessalonians*, p. 110)