

Be A Good Servant of Christ!

1 Timothy 4:6-16



1 Timothy 4:6-8

In pointing out these things to the brethren,
you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus,
constantly nourished on the words of the faith
and of the sound doctrine which you have been following.

But have nothing to do with worldly fables
fit only for old women.

On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose
of godliness; for bodily discipline is only of little profit,
but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds
promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

1 Timothy 4:9-13

It is a trustworthy statement deserving full acceptance.

For it is for this we labor and strive,
because we have fixed our hope on the living God,
who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers.

Prescribe and teach these things.

Let no one look down on your youthfulness,
but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show
yourself an example of those who believe.

Until I come, give attention to the public reading of Scripture,
to exhortation and teaching.

1 Timothy 4:14-16

Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you,
which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance
with the laying on of hands by the presbytery.

Take pains with these things; be absorbed in them,
so that your progress will be evident to all.

Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching;
persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure
salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.

Main Point

A good servant of Christ will devote himself to His service, discipline himself for godliness, and defend himself against derailment.

Be A Good Servant of Christ
Devote yourself to His service.

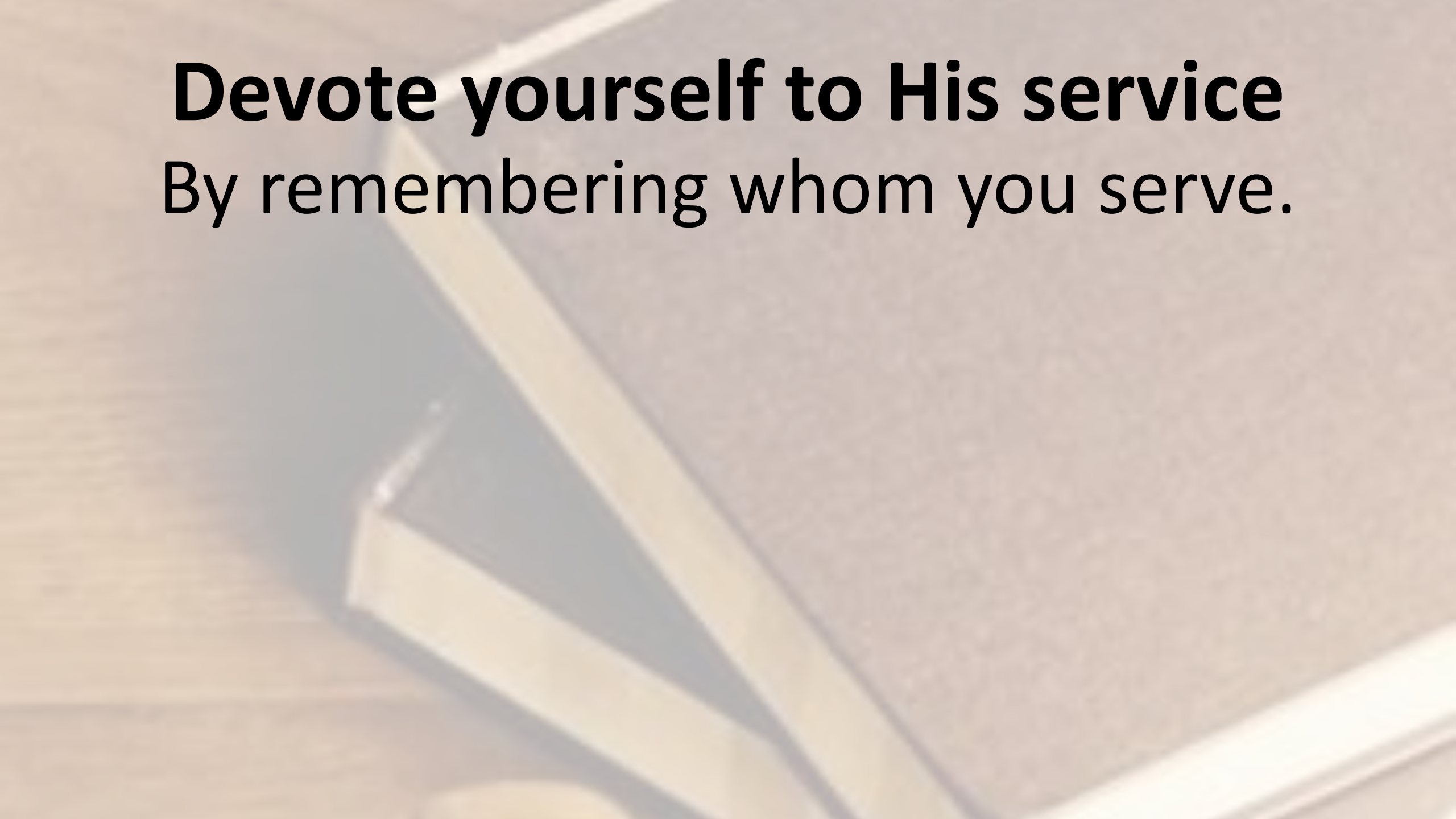


1 Timothy 4:6

**“...you will be a good servant of Christ
Jesus.”**

1 Timothy 4:6

“...you will be **a good servant of Christ Jesus.**”

The background of the image shows a stack of several books. The books have various colored covers, including shades of blue, grey, and brown. A blue bookmark is visible, sticking out from between the pages of one of the books. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

Devote yourself to His service
By remembering whom you serve.

1 Timothy 4:6

“...you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus.”

1 Timothy 4:6

“...you will be **a** good **servant of Christ Jesus.**”

1 Timothy 1:1 and 12

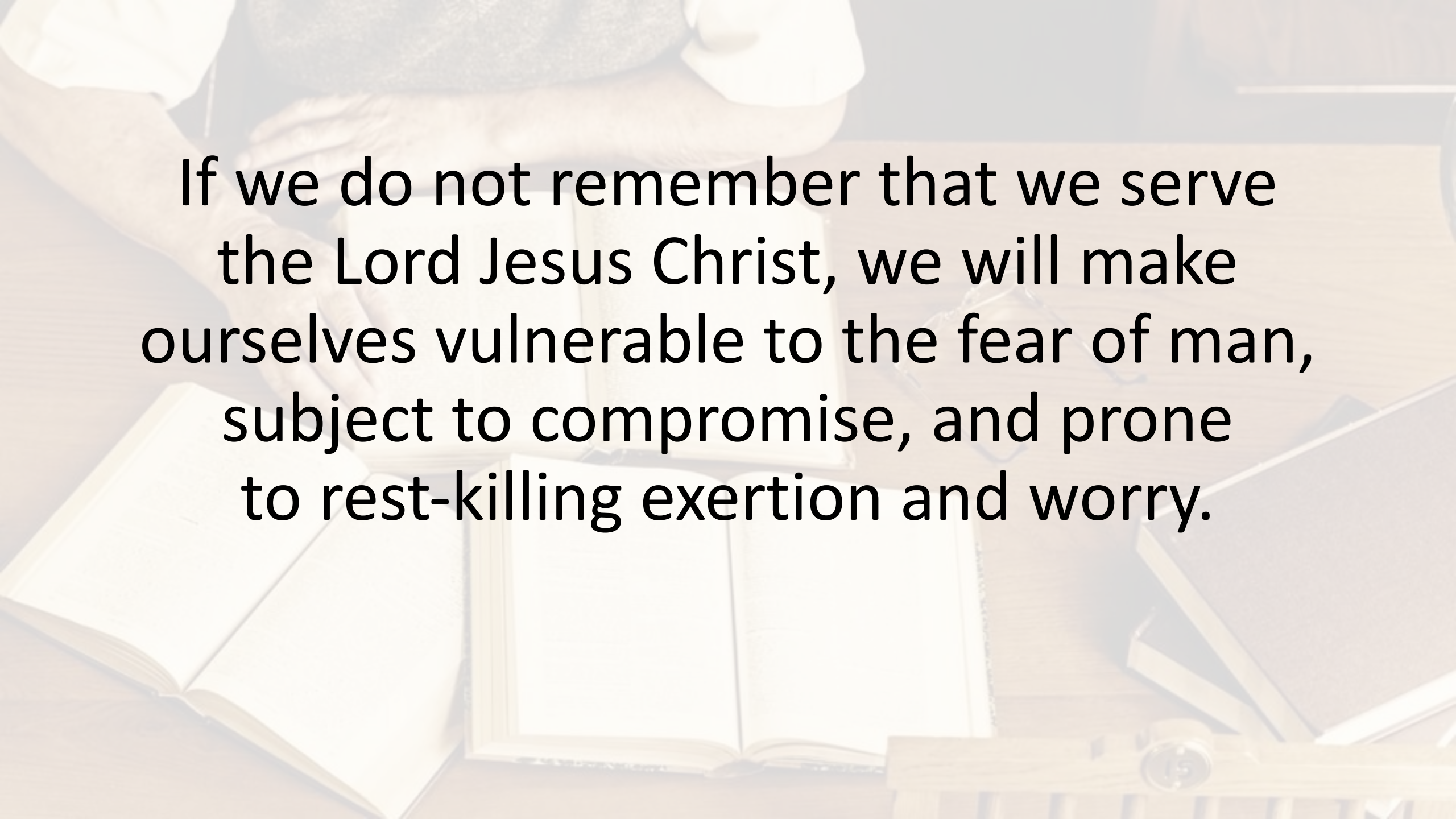
Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of God our Savior, and of Christ Jesus, who is our hope.

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service.

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to the commandment of God our Savior,
and of Christ Jesus, who is our hope.

I thank **Christ Jesus** our Lord, who has
strengthened me, because He considered me faithful,
put^{ting} me into service.

A person is shown from the chest down, wearing a white shirt and a dark vest. They are sitting at a desk, reading an open book. Their hands are resting on the pages of the book. The background is a soft, out-of-focus image of a desk with other books and a wooden chair.

If we do not remember that we serve
the Lord Jesus Christ, we will make
ourselves vulnerable to the fear of man,
subject to compromise, and prone
to rest-killing exertion and worry.

Galatians 1:1

Paul, an apostle (**not sent from men** nor through the agency of man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead).

Galatians 1:10

Or am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God?

Or am I striving to please men?

If I were still trying to please men,
I would not be a bond-servant of Christ.

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Or am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God?
Or am I striving to please men?

**If I were still trying to please men,
I would not be a bond-servant of Christ.**

Devote yourself to His service

By remembering whom you serve.

By understanding the task assigned.

1 Timothy 4:6

you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus.

1 Timothy 4:6

**In pointing out these things to the brethren,
you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus.**

What is the context?

1 Timothy 4:1-4 and 6

But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, men who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth.

In pointing out these things...
you will be a good servant.

What was the task?

1 Timothy 4:11

Prescribe and teach these things.

1 Timothy 6:2

Teach and preach these principles.

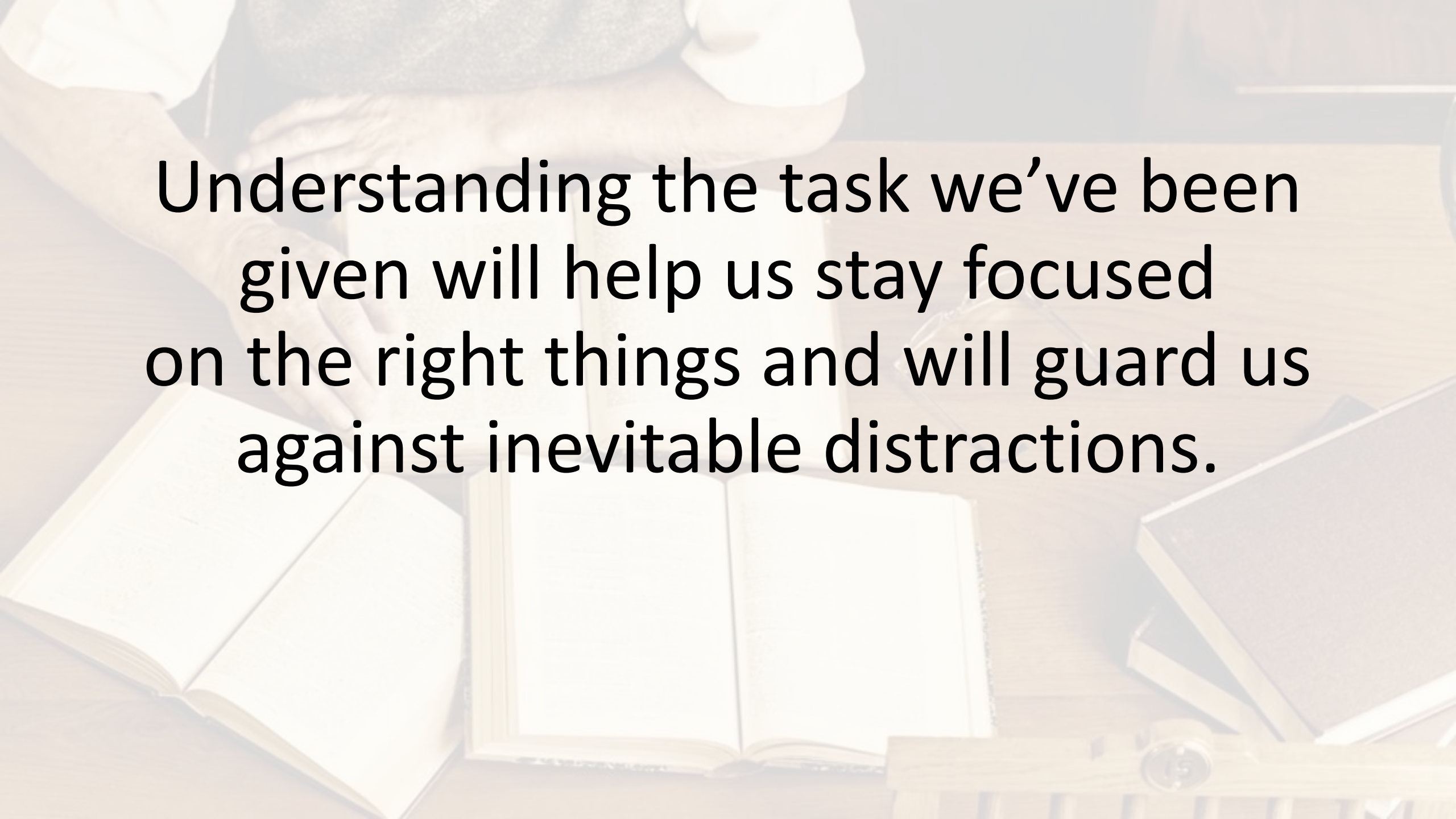
2 Timothy 4:2

Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

What was the task?

Acts 20:28

...shepherd the church of God
which He purchased with His own blood.

A background image of a study desk with several open books, a wooden ruler, and a small clock. A person's hands are visible at the top, resting on the books. The image is slightly blurred and has a warm, yellowish tint.

Understanding the task we've been
given will help us stay focused
on the right things and will guard us
against inevitable distractions.

Devote yourself to His service

By remembering whom you serve.

By understanding the task assigned.

**Be strengthening the gifts
you've been given.**

1 Timothy 4:14-15

Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you,
which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance
with the laying on of hands by the presbytery.
Take pains with these things; be absorbed in them,
so that your progress will be evident to all.

1 Timothy 4:14-15

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2 Timothy 1:6

For this reason I remind you to
kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you
through the laying on of my hands.

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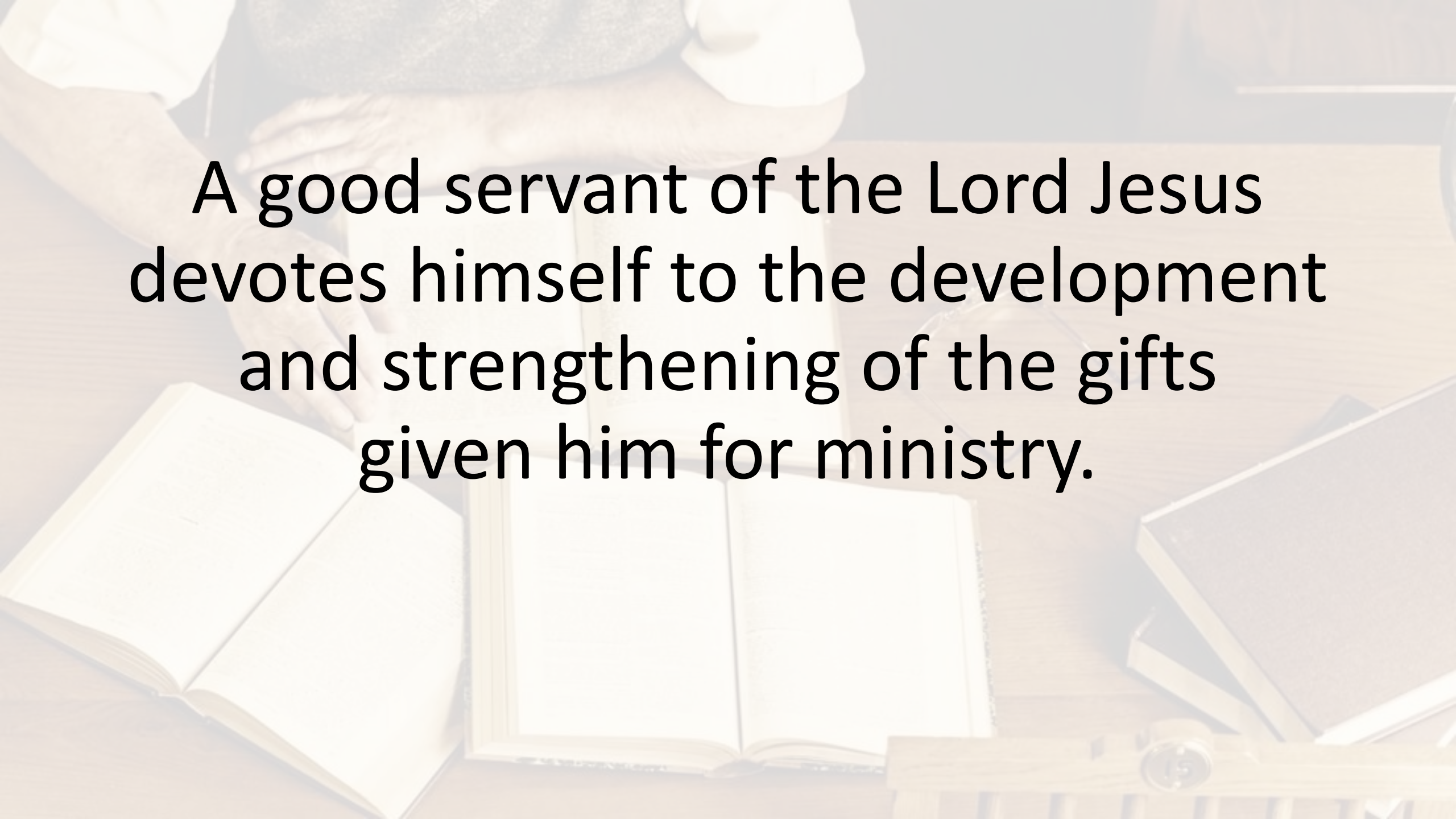
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Take pains with these things; be absorbed in them,

so that your progress will be evident to all.

A person wearing a white shirt and a grey vest is seated at a wooden desk. Their hands are resting on an open book. Several other books are scattered on the desk, and a small round clock is visible in the lower right corner. The background is softly blurred.

A good servant of the Lord Jesus
devotes himself to the development
and strengthening of the gifts
given him for ministry.

Be A Good Servant of Christ

Devote yourself to His service.

Discipline yourself for godliness.



1 Timothy 4:7 and 8

Discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness.

1 Timothy 4:7 and 8

Train yourself for the purpose of godliness.

For **bodily training** is only of little profit,
but godliness is profitable for all things,
since it holds promise for the present life
and also for the life to come.

What is godliness?

1 Timothy 4:12

Let no one look down on your youthfulness,
but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity,
show yourself an example of those who believe.

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show yourself an example of those who believe.

A stack of several books is visible in the background, resting on a light-colored wooden surface. The books have various colored covers, including shades of blue, green, and brown. The text is overlaid on the top portion of the image.

Discipline yourself for godliness
By forgoing the fables.

1 Timothy 4:7-8

But have nothing to do with worldly fables
fit only for old women.

On the other hand train yourself
for the purpose of godliness.

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But **have nothing to do with** worldly **fables**

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On the other hand train yourself
for the purpose of godliness.

What was the context?

1 Timothy 1:3-4

As I urged you upon my departure for Macedonia,
remain on at Ephesus so that you may instruct
certain men not to teach strange doctrines,
nor to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies,
which give rise to mere speculation rather than furthering
the administration of God which is by faith.

2 Timothy 2:23

But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations,
knowing that they produce quarrels.

What was the context?

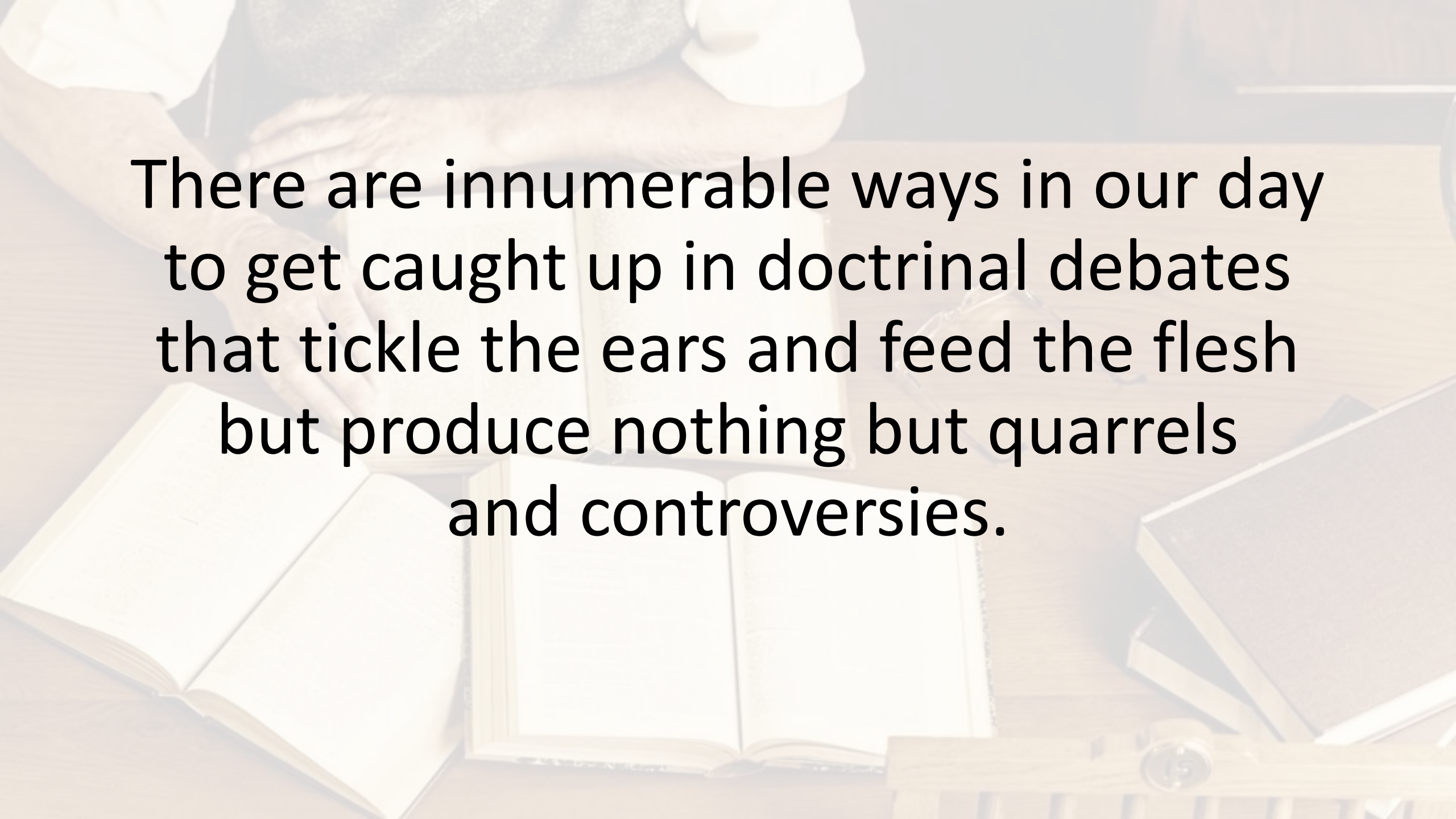
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2 Timothy 2:23

But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations,

knowing that they produce quarrels.

A background image showing a pair of hands resting on several open books on a wooden surface. The image is faded and serves as a backdrop for the text.

There are innumerable ways in our day
to get caught up in doctrinal debates
that tickle the ears and feed the flesh
but produce nothing but quarrels
and controversies.

1 Timothy 4:7-8

**On the other hand, discipline yourself
for the purpose of godliness.**

Discipline yourself for godliness

By forgoing the fables.

By feeding on the faith.

1 Timothy 4:6

You will be a good servant of Christ Jesus,
constantly nourished on the words of the faith and
of the sound doctrine which you have been following.

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You will be a good servant of Christ Jesus,

constantly *feeding* on the words of the faith and
of the sound doctrine which you have been following.

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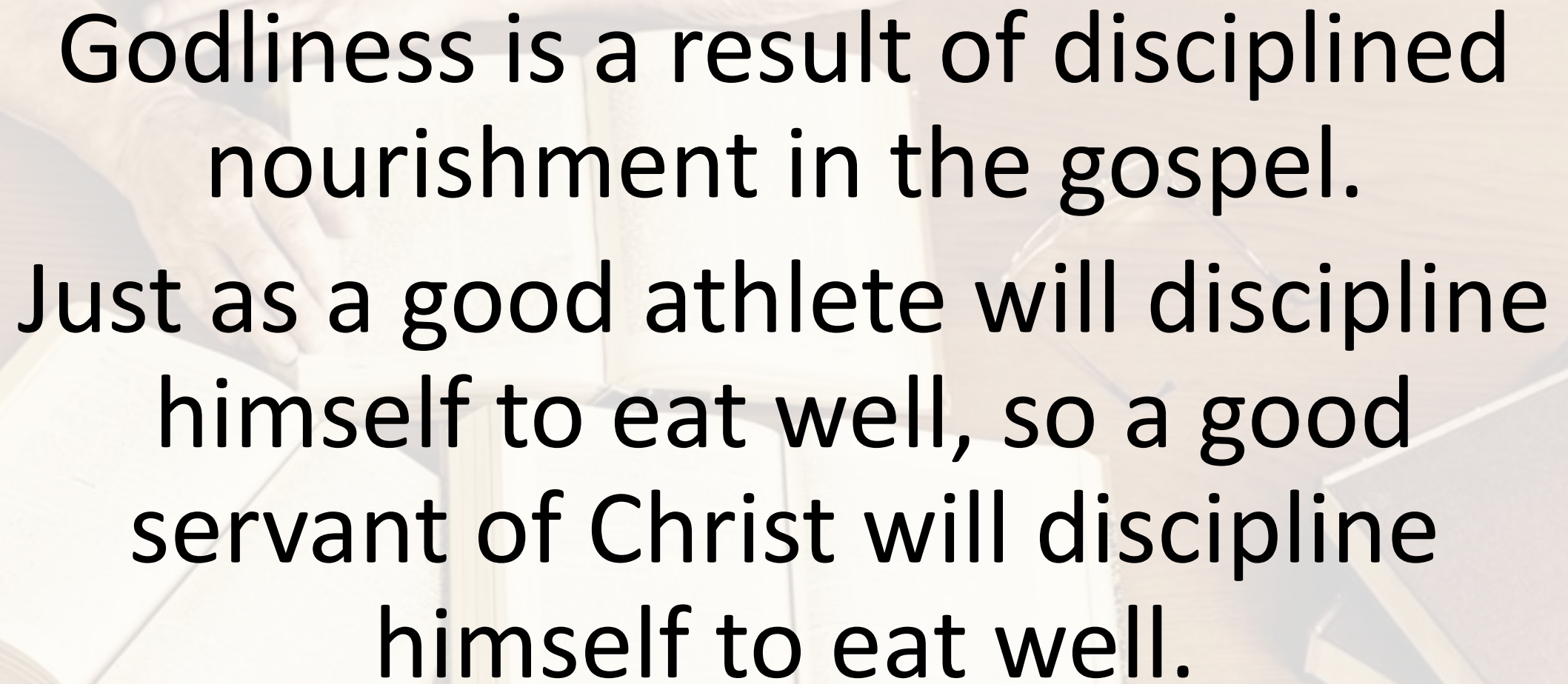
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You will be a good servant of Christ Jesus,

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of the sound doctrine** which you have been following.

A background image showing a person's hands resting on an open book. The person is wearing a white shirt and a dark, textured vest. The book is open, and the pages are visible. The overall tone is warm and focused.

Godliness is a result of disciplined
nourishment in the gospel.
Just as a good athlete will discipline
himself to eat well, so a good
servant of Christ will discipline
himself to eat well.

Discipline yourself for godliness

By forgoing the fables.

By feeding on the faith.

By focusing on the future.

1 Timothy 4:10

For it is ***for this*** we labor and strive...

What is the “this”?

1 Timothy 4:8

Godliness is profitable for all things,
since it holds promise for the present life
and also for the life to come.

1 Timothy 4:10

For it is for this we labor and strive...

What is the “this”?

1 Timothy 4:8

Godliness is profitable for all things,

since it holds **promise for the present life
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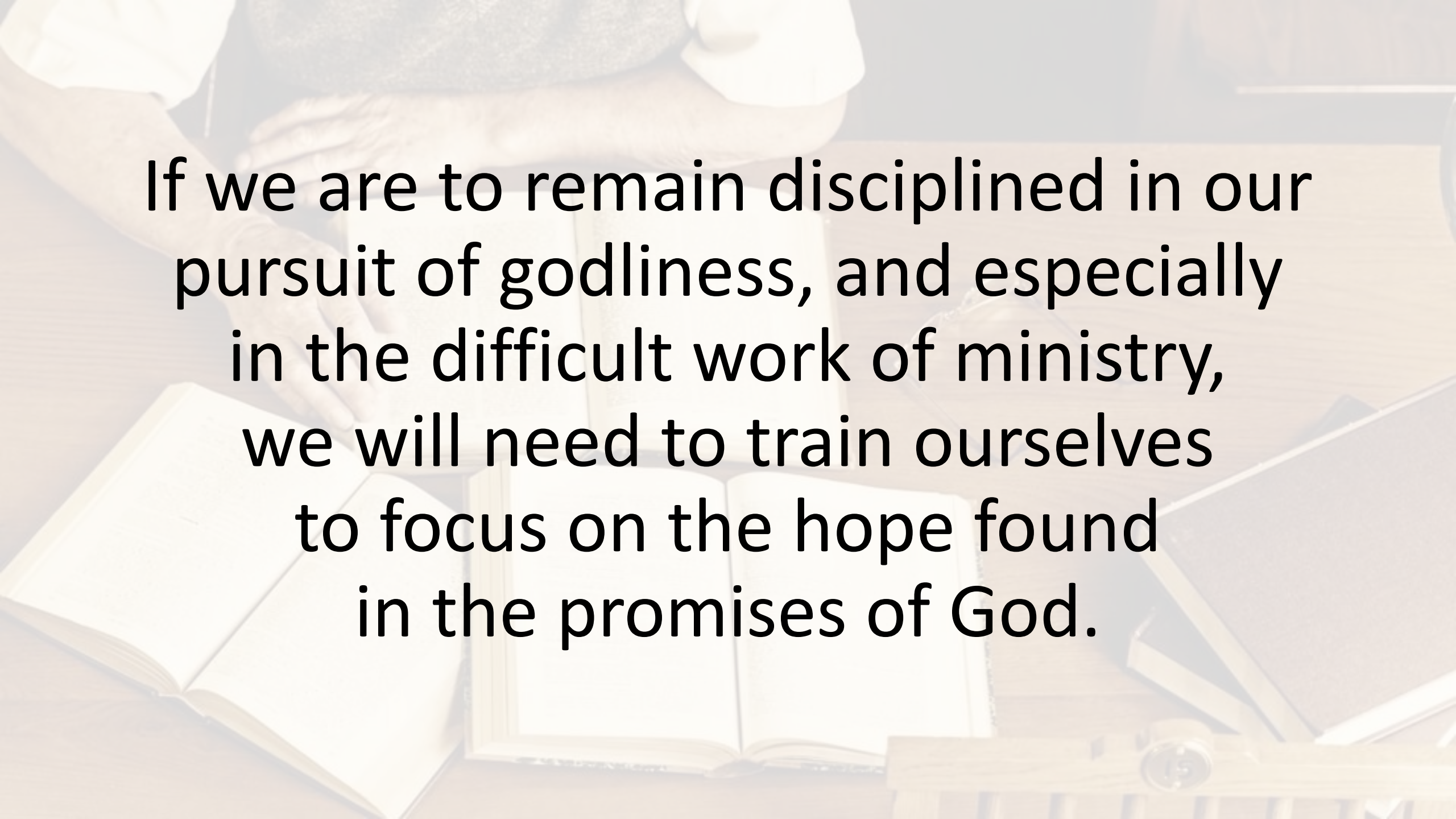
1 Timothy 4:10

For **it is for this we labor and strive**,
because we have fixed our hope on the living God,
who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers.

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on the living God,
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A person is shown from the chest down, wearing a white shirt and a dark vest. They are sitting at a desk, reading an open book. Their hands are resting on the pages of the book. The background is a soft, out-of-focus image of a desk with other books and a small clock.

If we are to remain disciplined in our
pursuit of godliness, and especially
in the difficult work of ministry,
we will need to train ourselves
to focus on the hope found
in the promises of God.

Hebrews 12:1-3

Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

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Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,
fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith,

who for the joy set before Him **endured the cross,**

despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand
of the throne of God. For consider Him who

has **endured** such **hostility** by sinners against Himself,
so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

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of the throne of God. For **consider Him** who
has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself,

**so that you will not grow weary
and lose heart.**

Be A Good Servant of Christ

Devote yourself to His service.

Discipline yourself for godliness.

Defend yourself against derailment.



The background of the image shows a wooden desk surface. On the desk, there are two folders: a blue one and a brown one. The blue folder is partially open, and the brown folder is closed. The text is overlaid on the upper part of the image.

Defend yourself against derailment
By paying attention to yourself.

1 Timothy 4:16

Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching;
persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure
salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.

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Pay close attention **to yourself** and to your teaching;
persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure
salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.

Acts 20:28

Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock,
among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers,
to shepherd the church of God
which He purchased with His own blood.

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Important Imperatives

- Guard your personal worship: in the Scriptures, in prayer, in meditation, in your work, etc.
- Regularly practice self-examination and confession.
- Stay in fellowship and be accountable.
- Devote yourself to your duties, including to the duties of your household.
- Humble yourself by safeguarding routines of rest.
- Steward the body you've been given.

Defend yourself against derailment

By paying attention to yourself.

By paying attention to your teaching.

1 Timothy 4:16

Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.

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Pay close attention to yourself and **to your teaching;**

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salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.

Important Imperatives

- Grow in your personal study of the Word and doctrine.
- Labor for accuracy in your understanding.
- Read those who have gone before you.
- Preach and teach to yourself first.
- Submit to and receive from others.

Defend yourself against derailment

By paying attention to yourself.

By paying attention to your teaching.

By persevering in faith.

1 Timothy 4:16

Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching;
persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure
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Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching;

persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure
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Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching;

stay under these things, for as you do this you will ensure
salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.

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salvation both for yourself **and for those who hear you.**

Romans 15:4

For whatever was written in earlier times was written
for our instruction, so that through perseverance
and the encouragement of the Scriptures
we might have hope.

Concluding Exhortations

Remember whom you serve,
and devote yourself to Him.

Make godliness the clear aim of your life.

Pay close attention to yourself,
and labor to make your personal
habits pleasing to Christ.