

**The Work of Evangelists: 2 Timothy 2:15-26**  
**10-8-17**

**The Qualifications of an evangelist**

When a congregation in the US needs an evangelist, it is not uncommon for them to put out information that parallels a want-ad for that work. Their criteria are often self-made, and include qualities such as “personal work”, “family man”, or “experienced”. Yet such requests reflect the absence of understanding that the work of an evangelist is one which has qualification. In 2 Timothy 2, Paul writes to the evangelist timothy and reminds him of the qualities he must have in his work. Here is that list.

<b>Qualifications of Ministers in II Timothy 2:24-26</b>		
<b>Listed Qualification</b>	<b>Greek Word</b>	<b>Corresponding command to all Christians</b>
(a man)		
a man - servant	doulos: man slave	Ro 6:18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.
Does not quarrel	machomai: to fight or war	James 4:2 <b>You fight and war</b> . Yet you do not have because you do not ask.
Gentle	epios: mild or kind, gentle	Tit 3:2 to speak evil of no one, to <b>be peaceable, gentle</b> , showing all humility to all men
Apt to teach	didaktikos: able to teach	Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, <b>teaching</b> and admonishing one another.....
Patient	anexikakos: enduring of ill, patient	1 Pet 2:20 ....? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it <b>patiently</b> , this is commendable before God.
<b>meekly</b> instructing	praotes: gentleness, humility/meekness	Tit 3:2 to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men
meekly <b>instructing</b>	paideuo: to train up a child; educate	1 Cor 2:16 For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

In comparing that chart to the qualifications of elders and the qualifications of deacons given in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1, we see that many of them overlap with the elder (but none with the deacon). This might again point to the idea that these works are symbiotic in their nature.

<b>ELDERS</b>	<b>DEACONS</b>	<b>EVANGELISTS</b>
ABLE TO TEACH		ABLE TO TEACH
GENTLE		GENTLE
ABLE TO REFUTE		ABLE TO REFUTE
NOT QUARRELSOME		NOT QUARRELSOME
BLAMELESS	BLAMELESS	
TEMPERATE	TEMPERATE	
HUSBAND OF 1 WIFE	HUSBAND OF 1 WIFE	
HOUSES RULED	HOUSES RULED	
NOT A DRINKER	NOT A DRINKER	

## The Duties of an Evangelist

Another area where there is misunderstanding is in the duties of an evangelist. Many see the primary purpose of the evangelist to work among the lost; yet almost all of the commandments and directions to the evangelist (minus the great commission) are in regards to working within the local congregation.

Duties of Ministers in II Timothy 4:2-5		
Preach the word	kerusso logos: herald or proclaim, the word	Rom 2:21 You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? <b>You who preach</b> that a man should not steal, do you steal?
Preparation (be ready)	ephistemi: to be present or at hand	1 Pet 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always <b>be ready to give a defense</b> to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;
Convince	elegcho: to admonish or convict	Eph 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather <b>expose</b> them.
Rebuke	epitimao: tax, censure or forbid	Luke 17:3 Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, <b>rebuke him</b> ; and if he repents, forgive him.
Exhort	parakaleo: to call near (to encourage behavior)	Rom 12:8 he who <b>exhorts</b> , in <b>exhortation</b> ;
Patience and longsuffering	makrothumia kia didache: long suffering & teaching	1 Pet 2:20 But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God.
Be watchful	nepho: abstain from wine (be vigilant)	1 Pet 5:8 Be <b>sober</b> , be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.
Do the work of an evangelist	ergon euaggelistes: work as one with good news	Rom 10:15 .... <b>bring glad tidings of good things!</b> "
Duties of Ministers in I Timothy 4:13-16		
give attention to reading	anagnosis: (the act of) reading:--reading.	Acts 13:15 "Men and brethren, if you have any <b>word of exhortation</b> for the people, say on."
give attention to doctrine	didaskalia: instruction doctrine, learning, teaching.	1Tim 6:3 If anyone teaches otherwise and does not <b>consent</b> to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and <b>to the doctrine</b> which accords with godliness,
Meditate (on the above)	meletao: to revolve in the mind	Php 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, .... <b>meditate</b> on these things.
Duties of Ministers in II Timothy 2:15		
Study	spoudazo: to use speed, i.e. to make effort, be prompt or earnest:--do (give) diligence, be diligent (forward), endeavour, labour, study.	Eph 4:1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, ..... <b>endeavoring</b> to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
Shun idle and profane babblers	periistemi: to stand all around and prevent bystanders	Tit 3:9 But <b>avoid foolish disputes</b> , genealogies, contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and useless

### **The work of the Evangelist – local or universal?**

Ephesians 4:11 *“And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers”*. In Ephesians 4:11 we are shown five works given by Christ to the church. Two of them, Apostles and Prophets, were works given to the universal church and are no longer present. Two of them, Pastors and Teachers, are still present today in the local church. It is the evangelist that raises some question.

There are some who teach that evangelists serve the universal church, not the local. This doctrine is call Mutual Edification, and supposes that evangelists teach only the lost, not the saved. Yet we have seen that most of the commands to the evangelist are in regards to the work in the local church. Others see the work of the evangelists as being with the local church only until the time elders are appointed. This too is not in line with Scriptures such as 1 Timothy 5.

It seems that the clear answer is that preachers are part of the work and purpose of the local church. Therefore, we should understand that this is part of God’s plan for the local church.