

CUSTODIANS OF GOD'S WORD

By Keith Greer

A "custodian" is defined as "*a caretaker; one in charge of something belonging to another.*"

Following are some ways we serve as "**custodians**" of God's Word.

We care for and protect it. "Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us." {2 Timothy 1:13,14} God committed His word to us for our care and protection. We protect the word by defending and upholding it against its enemies. "But the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel." {Philippians 1:17}

We hold it fast in view of eternity. "Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown." {Revelation 3:11} God's children must never allow His word to grow cold in their hearts. When we stop reading and studying, we stop growing. The word has to guide and direct us to keep us headed in the right direction as we journey through life. God's people understand His word is the standard of judgment for all men. "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him--the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day." {John 12:48}

We teach it to others. "And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." (2 Timothy 2:2) I have no right to be selfish with God's word. He wants me to share it with others. If we hide and covet it for ourselves, we displease our Father. One reason we must grow is to enable us to take God's word and teach it to those who are lost and dying in sin. This is God's pattern for spreading the gospel to the world in which we live. Who better to help spread the "good news" than those who have, from their hearts, obeyed its teachings," But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness." {Romans 6:17,18}.

Yes, the vital words of life have been placed in our safekeeping to share with our friends, neighbors and loved ones. What kind of "**custodian**" are you? ***