QUALITIES OF A ROLE MODEL
1 Peter 2:21

INTRODUCTION
A. Much is said about role models.
   3. If I were to ask you this morning to define “What a role model is” what would your answer be?
   4. We would have difficulty answering that question because each of us have a different opinion.
B. Society’s definition is someone who is rich, famous, and in the spotlight of our world.
   1. Many look to the sports world and other to the entertainment world.
   2. These people have tremendous effect upon society.
   3. But what our country needs to understand is that money, fame and the spotlight do not qualify a person to be a role model.
C. Something good often comes from bad things. When Mickey Mantle was fighting a losing battle with cancer, two good things came from that publicity. First was awareness about the need for donating organs. Second, one sports commentator wisely said, “There is a difference between a hero and a role model.” Mickey Mantle might have been a hero but he was no role model. Examples to be avoided: LE 20:23; PR 22:24-25; EK 20:18; HE 4:11; 2 PE 3:17.
D. If people with bad habits and traits are held before our youth as role models, then we will have a generation of youth to learn those same bad habits and traits.
E. The Bible teaches that other people have significant influence on our lives.
   1. EK 16:44.
   2. I CO 15:33.
F. How do we find good, quality role models? PS 119:105. We go to God’s guidebook. Go with me to 3 John and notice three characters.

DISCUSSION
I. GAIUS – 3 JN 1-8.
   A. He was physical healthy.
      1. Some of our youth’s most envied role models are perfect pictures of health.
      2. Gaius is a perfect pictured of health. Vs. 2.
   B. Gaius was spiritual healthy.
      1. One could be bed-ridden, an invalid and still be a healthy person spiritually.
      2. Paul, 2 CO 12:7. But he was spiritually healthy.
      3. I TI 4:8; I CO 11:30.
      4. What was the secret of Gaius’ spiritual health?
         a. A good “diet.” Vs. 3.
         b. He walked in truth. Vs. 4.
         c. He got plenty of spiritual exercise. Vs.5-8.
         d. He exercised encouragement. Vs.5.
         e. He exercised charity (brotherly love, affection, good will. Love, benevolence). Vs. 6.
         f. He was hospitable to strangers. Vs. 5
         g. He exercised his influence. Vs. 5
      5. Gaius was wealthy. Vs. 4. Because he walked in truth.
         a. Truth is better than money. PS 119:72, 127.
         b. Truth is worth more than money. PR 23:23.
         c. Truth unshackles the bonds of sin. JN 8:32.
   II. DIOTREPHES – 3 John 9-11.
   A. He was one who loves the preeminence (desire to be first) in the church. His sin was “pride of place.” MT 18:3-4.
   B. He rejected John. John wrote but Diotrephes did not receive “us”.
      1. He rejected the apostle of Christ.
      2. He rejected the Christ because of his “love of first place.”
   C. He was opposed of John’s coming and “the brethren”. He withdrew from those who wanted John and the brethren to come. He was trying to keep faithful brethren from doing the good work Jesus gave them to do – save souls!
D. He was evil and not good.

III. DEMETRIUS—3 JN 12
A. Demetrius had popularity.
   1. Everyone wants to be popular and do popular things.
   2. One of the most coveted awards given in school is the “most popular.”
   3. But Demetrius was popular with the people in that he had a “good report of all men.”
   4. This meant that he had a good reputation within and without the church.
   5. PR 22:1. Soloman emphasized the value of a good reputation.
B. Demetrius was wealthy.
   1. Besides having a good report with the people, the truth also represented him well.
   2. The only way truth can testify well of one is for the person to be living the truth.

CONCLUSION
A. Are you a spiritually person?
B. Are you a popular person?
C. Are you a wealthy person?
D. Are you a Christian? If not obey today!