

What does it take to preserve the Gospel?

1. Warriors. Our warrior King calls us to be warriors, 1 Kings 2:2.

2. Strength, skill, insight, and obedience to the Word of God, 1 Kings 2:3.

"The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me." Martin Luther

"What I have learned over the years is that our grasp of reality itself can be hindered by having inadequate language to name the reality. If you can't name it, it's hard to receive or pass on. For example, if you have no word for chivalry, will you know it when you see it? Will you be able to help your child have it? One of the great gifts of Scripture is that it creates for us categories of thought that help us grasp more truth. And it gives us terms to talk about those categories that we would not have without the Bible."

John Piper, *A Peculiar Glory: How the Christian Scriptures Reveal Their Complete Truthfulness*.

3. The faithfulness of God, 1 Kings 2:4; 2 Samuel 7: 11b – 16; 2 Corinthians 1:20.

4. Purposeful proclamation, preservation, and action, 1 Kings 2:5-46; Matthew 28:16-20; 1 Timothy 6:20; 2 Timothy 1:14; 2:24-26; Titus 1:10-16; 1 John 2:14-15.

Refuse to compromise on the essential truths of the Gospel.

Learn and know and defend the truths that sustain the Gospel.

Be gracious about your personal convictions. Be careful that your personal convictions don't bleed into sustaining convictions.