

## PIETY outline

The material included in these pages is meant to give you, the Rollista, something as a basic help in your presentation of the PIETY talk. You are encouraged to follow the outline guide for DIRECTION OF CONTENT, but NOT AS THE CONTENT itself.

This is the last talk of the first day. It's a key talk and sums up the talks given that day. Every succeeding talk 'explains' this one. With this talk, we have a turning point in the tone of the weekend. The main impact is from the personal testimony of the speaker. The speaker should strive to establish a relationship with the listener ...authentic, real, genuine. He willing to openly expose shortcomings and difficulties. Answers and success are not always found. The listener should identify with the struggles and be aimed at the potential solution. S/he is encouraged to share personal feelings/emotions as s/he presents this 'heart' talk. The presentation should be simple—no complicated theories, but direct—a response to God's gift of Grace in giving self to Him. As you prepare your talk, please be sure to read all the supporting Scripture passages, then choose those passages which seem most appropriate for your rollo. When you give your rollo, please read the passages you choose as a part of your talk. Let God speak through His Word and tell how it relates to you and your experiences in life. The amount of time allotted for this talk is a maximum of 45 minutes.

There are a few additional materials included that might be helpful to you. All material given to you is meant to guide your thinking while at the same time you have the freedom of your individual expression. God's Blessings be yours as you prepare for your presentation of the PIETY rollo.

### SYNOPSIS

The PIETY talk extends the call to live a life dedicated to God, reflecting Christ-like characteristics and realizing the necessity of using disciplines provided to help in the nurturing and growing in the Life in Grace.

### OUTLINE #5 PIETY

Review: Ideal - - - - Call to be Human Habitual Grace- Call to be Christian Laity - - - - We (you) are the Church Actual Grace- - God's Love Made Personal

#### 1. Introduction

- A. Piety is God's call to us to a new life, which would affect our relationship with self, God, other people, and the world.
- B. Living life in God's Grace, gives spirit and life in relationships. It is being Christian.
- C. Piety, Study, and Action are three elements supporting the Life in Grace.

#### II. False Piety

- A. Earn way to heaven — concerned with externals; with 'practice' of piety; many activities; good works; believes in what one is doing. (Holy Holly/ Harry) [Matt. 7:21-23](#)
- B. Goes through the motions—robot type; fearful; not loving; knows all the right words—but just words; noncommitted; 'Always done it that way';(Mechanical Molly/Mike) [Rom.12:2](#)
- C. A 'Christian' for self-gain—lip service rather than life service; do all to promote self; aware of what one is doing: (Pharisaic Polly/Phil) [Romans 15:1](#), [II Cor. 5:15](#) 'Proudly humble'

### III. True Piety [Col. 3:17](#)

A. Arises out of our personal relationship with God. It is the life of Christ in us, the life of Grace, conscious, growing, and shared.

B. Directing my whole life to God—consciously aware of God's presence within me...spiritually, physically, emotionally, and mentally

I. Know God [I Cor. 2:12](#), continuing process

2. Love God [John 14:21](#), [Matt. 22:37-39](#), Love all people, a matter of the heart; Augustine said: "Love God and do what you wish".

3. Live for God [I Cor. 10:31](#), Matt. b:33, our 'oughts' and 'shoulds' become our wants and desires

C. Piety is my Ideal

1. Gives direction, purpose and meaning;

2. Is a goal to strive for;

3. Brings joy;

Ideal is sum total of my life; therefore Ideal=Piety

### IV. Visible Characteristics of the Life of Piety

A. Courageous [II Tim. 1:7](#), [Psalm 27:14](#), [I Cor. 16:1:3](#). Eph.6:in

B. Naturalness [Matt. 5:14-16](#)

C. Joy Phil.. 4:4

### V. Spiritual Disciplines of Piety

Are ways of creating some open and free space in which God can make His presence known.

A. Prayer and meditation [Jeremiah 33:3](#)

B. Bible reading [IT Tim. 3:16,17](#)

C. Worship and Sacraments [Col. 3:16](#), [Col. 2:11,12](#), [I Coy. 11:23-26](#), [Romans 6:3,4](#)

D. Study [II Tim. 2:15](#)

E. Christian Community [Rom. 12:1](#).`3, [Gal. 6:8-10](#), [Heb. 10:24](#), 25

F. Praise and Thanksgiving [I Peter- 2:9](#)

### VI. Completion of Piety

A. Be imitators of God [I John 3:1,18,24](#), [Eph. 5:1,2,8](#) [Isaiah 40:31](#) - eagle, a symbol of courage and piety B. God's power active within is Creative Piety - true desire to share God's life of joy and peace with others To Know Him, Is to Love Him, Is to Serve Him.

### ADDITIONAL NOTES/MATERIALS THAT MIGHT BE HELPFUL — PIETY

The PIETY talk calls Christians to witness by his/her own life that Christianity is not mere theory, but is accessible through the Grace of God.

Piety is an expression of our love for God and for our neighbor. 'Do all for the glory of God'...[I Cor. 10:31](#)

This talk shows ways in which we are false and thereby avoid full dedication to God; through the living testimony of the speaker, the candidates are given an illustration of what it means to be a Christian.

We must be a Christian and not just do Christian things.

Points under 'False Piety'—First false idea—can be treated humorously

Second false idea—can have humor but Third false idea—treated with strength 'Hypocrisy involves malice and should be condemned.'

For good personal witness—might include:

1. Where speaker was before he/she began to direct his/her life to God.
2. How change came
3. What life in Christ means to speaker.

REMEMBER—it is God's work in man that enables man to live a life of piety.

'God doesn't want nibblers of the faith, He wants grabbers of the impossible.'

'Nothing succeeds like failure.'

Bonhoefer said, "Grace is free but it is not cheap!"

'The busier I am, the more time I need with God'.

Another word for Piety: Piousity

I should go to church—piousity I want to go to church—piety I ought to pray—piousity I want to pray—piety

I ought to visit the nursing home—piousity I want to visit the nursing home—piety

Do not identify only with the moments; it's daily life that shows others what we really are. Concentrating on our better moments will only distract us from seeing all of life as something to dedicate to the glory of God.