

Philippians – Above the Circumstances!

Phil 2:17-30

Lives Worth Imitating

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- Walking in His footsteps, imitating Him...

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- His kind of life here and now as we journey through this foreign land called earth on our way Home
- Walking in His footsteps, imitating Him... can be a bit intimidating.
- But consider:
 - Paul (vs. 17-18)
 - Timothy (vs. 19-24)
 - Epaphroditus (vs. 25-30)

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Paul's Example – vs. 17-18

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 - A 'drink offering' or 'libation'

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 - A 'drink offering' or 'libation' ...
a final, additional offering bringing the sacrifice to completion
 - He looks at the situation and believes God is using it for good (Rom 8:28).

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Paul's Example – vs. 17-18

- Joyous sacrifice and suffering in service of other people.
 - A 'drink offering' or 'libation' ...
a final, additional offering bringing the sacrifice to completion.
 - He looks at the situation and believes God is using it for good (Rom 8:28).
 - God's good purposes in our circumstances may be for the benefit of others rather than us.

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Timothy's Example – vs. 19-24

- Authentic and selfless concern for others.
 - He was 'anxious' for the right things: the well being of other people.
- A servant's heart.
 - He was willing to do whatever was asked of him for the sake of the Kingdom.
 - He came not to be served, but to serve...

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Epaphroditus' Example – vs. 25-30

- Willing to take great personal risks in service of God.
 - ‘God’s gamblers’ – voluntarily put themselves in danger in order to serve other people.

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- Joyous sacrifice and suffering in service of other people.
- Authentic and selfless concern for others.
- Willing to serve unseen – not in spotlight
- A servant's heart.
- Willing to take great personal risks in service of God.

*I am not writing these things to shame you but to warn you as my beloved children ... I ask you to follow my example and do as I do.
(1 Cor 4:14-16)*