

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Philippians 2:17-30 (A.D. 61)

Living Examples

2:1-16 Sets the standard & calls us to live it out

2:17-18, "But even if I am poured out as a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you."

Paul rejoices in **his opportunity to live or die** for their benefit (**1:20-21**)

- He repeats **his exhortation** to rejoice in it with him
- "For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me."

*He embraces Christ's example in **2:5-8**

Would we celebrate our friend's sacrifice in our behalf?

I Corinthians 11:1, "Imitate me, as I also imitate Christ." (A.D. 56)

2:19-24 – Timothy's example (**2:3-4**)

Vs. 19, "I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon"

- He reaffirms his confidence in Christ
- He's sending someone observe how they're doing

"That I also may be encouraged when I know your state."

- He states his hope of affirmed confidence in them

Vs. 20-22, "I have **no one else like him**, who will show genuine concern for your welfare."

- "For everyone looks out for their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ."

Vs. 23-24, "Therefore, I hope to send him as soon as I see how things go with me." (If he dies, there's no need for Timothy to report back)

- My life is in God's hands, either way.

"But I trust in the Lord that I myself shall also come shortly."

Vs. 25, "But I think it is necessary to **send back to you** Epaphroditus, my brother, co-worker and fellow soldier, who is also **your messenger**, whom you sent to take care of my needs."

- **One of you** who is **one with me** (an authentic "joint" ligament)

Vs. 26-28, "He was longing for you all, and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick."

- **Your love** for him, **increases his love** for you (**2:1-2**)
- He almost died, which caused him concern for your comfort (**II Cor. 1:3-4**)
- This letter is one of the **most deeply relational** in the NT

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Paul is providing two **compelling testimonies**

- Personal examples of **2:1-16**

Proverbs 22:1 & 27:21

*“A **good name** is to be chosen rather than great riches, **Loving favor** rather than silver and gold.”*

*“The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, And a man is valued by **what others say of him.**”*

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Vs. 29-30, “Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem”

- “Receive” – Embrace as one **with you & with the Lord (2:1-2)**

“He risked his life... in your service to me.”

- He did it in your behalf, **with you & for you**

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Remember – Paul is working to protect them from division

- He is reenforcing **their calling, (2:1-16)**
- Such lives **do not live** in division
- God preserved this as **our calling**, as well.
- What will **our lives** give people to say?
- Our testimonies live **beyond** presence