

HERITAGE PARK

ALLIANCE CHURCH

Week 3 - Imitating Great Role Models

Joy-Full

Encouragement from the Book of Philippians

Philippians 2:12-30, 3:17-20, 4:1-3

Our citizenship is in Heaven (3:20)

Follow my example, and keep your eyes on those who live as we do- Paul (3:17)

Work out your salvation, for it is God who works. to fulfill his good purpose (2:12-13)

Do everything without complaining or arguing. then you will shine like stars in the sky (2:14, 15)

Timothy has proved himself (2:22) Epaphroditus-risked his life-almost died for the work of Christ (2:30)

Reflection Questions

1. Do we work FOR our salvation? (2:12) What does Paul mean here, taking into account verse 2:13? (Compare Ephesians 2:8-10)
2. Verse 2:12 begins 'therefore'... How are 'live as citizens' (1:27), Christ's example of self-sacrifice (2:5-11), and Paul's urging that we should consider others above ourselves (2:1-4), connected with living out our salvation without complaint? (2:14-16)
How might this affect how people 'hear' the word of life from us?
3. What qualities can be imitated from Timothy and Epaphroditus' lives? How might we have initially discounted Timothy as a role model? (see 1 Timothy 4:12, 14, 5:23, 2 Tim. 1:6-8, 1 Corinthians 16:10)
4. Euodia and Syntyche are infamous for their quarrel- but what else should we remember them for? What does this tell us about Christian community and service? (Phil. 4:2-3)

Application

1. How do we balance the 2 truths that we should work (live) out our salvation, and that it is God who works, giving us the will and the ability to serve? (2:12-13)
2. Think about the last time you complained or argued. How would Christ's mindset of self-sacrifice and remembering our identity as kingdom citizens help to change that next time? How can you shine brighter in a dark world?
3. Paul gives 3 models of service for us to imitate (himself, Timothy and Epaphroditus) and encourages us to look for such people to imitate and to honour. (3:17, 2:29) Who do you respect and look to as a model or a mentor? What qualities that you see in them would you like to see reproduced in your life?
4. Are there people who look to you as an example? How can you encourage others in the faith? Are there ways we may let them down? (see 4:2-3)

This week we are listening to

Come Thou Fount, Come though King
Great are You Lord
Give Me Jesus

Other Scriptures to consider

Hebrews 13:7
Acts 4:36-37, 9:26-27, 11:22-26
1 Corinthians 4:15-17, 11:1
1 Thessalonians 1:6, 2:14
Matthew 5:16
2 Corinthians 4:5-7

Notes