

## PICTURES OF GODLY LEADERSHIP

**Philippians 2:19** But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your <sup>l</sup>state.

**Philippians 2:20** For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state.

**Philippians 2:21** For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 2:22** But you know his proven character, that as a son with *his* father he served with me in the gospel.

**Philippians 2:23** Therefore I hope to send him at once, as soon as I see how it goes with me.

**Philippians 2:24** But I trust in the Lord that I myself shall also come shortly.

### INTRO:

(1) For many years  
now, churches  
have intentionally  
looked to the way  
secular groups  
lead their places  
of business, and  
have then brought  
those principles into  
the church

(2) Jesus taught His  
disciples that was  
the exact opposite  
of the way leader  
ship is in the kingdom  
of God

**Matthew 20:25** But Jesus called them to *Himself* and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them.

**Matthew 20:26** Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.

**Matthew 20:27** And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—

**Matthew 20:28** just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

### (3) Styles of church gov't?

We must be careful to observe that the Apostle does not lay down a rigid system of church order. Indeed, it is questionable whether any such thing is to be found anywhere in the Scriptures. But, what, he does lay down, is character, character, service, service, humility, humility. unity, unity

What is a pastor? A Pastor is a man who is given charge of souls. He is not merely a nice, pleasant man who visits people and has an afternoon cup of tea with them, or passes the time of day with them. He is the guardian, the custodian, the protector, the organizer, the director, the ruler of the flock.

(4) In this portion of **Phi 2** we have three exemplary servant leaders to learn from.

(5) *In particular focusing on the internal workings of serving together in the church*

The message over the last few weeks, and this one today, are what are commonly referred to as “Character Studies”

Focusing on an individual, learning what we can from the text. In this case, we have looked at Paul, and a little bit at Timothy, and more of him today, and then next time, Epaphroditus

Also, we find a theme that emerges from all three of these servants of God. They all understood what God had called them to do, and they were faithfully living out that calling in their day.

The common characteristic in all three, was that of leading by serving and caring for the Lord’s Sheep. And, supportive of each other, and working together as a team.

## OUTLINE

I. SUPPORTING one another

II. WORKING with one another

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### I. SUPPORTING, OUR LEADERS. Like pastors, elders

**Philippians 2:19** But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your <sup>[a]</sup>state.

**Philippians 2:20** For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state.

**1. PAUL IS EXPRESSING  
HIS TRUST IN GOD, AND  
PLANS FOR TIMOTHY  
WE SEE HOW HE WORKED  
WITH TIMOTHY, AND HOW  
TIMOTHY WORDED WITH  
HIM**

**A. THEY WORKED TOGETHER,  
AS A FATHER AND SON, THEY**

## WERE UNITED IN THEIR HEARTS IN SERVING THE LORD JESUS

**IDEA:** Paul had been speaking of his own service, but now speaks of Timothy whose name, means, “Honoring God” of Timothy supporting Paul in the ministry.

**NOTICE:** You can see the support of Timothy, to Paul. Notice what Paul said about Timothy

**“For I have”** What did he have?

**In a word, he had a like-minded fellow minister**

**NOTICE:** See the words **Care** and **State** mentioned in Verses **19-20**. **Know** your state, and care for your state They **shared** this **same heart** attitude.

**To know, means to arrive at a knowledge of someone or something**  
***know, know about, make acquaintance of***

**To care, means to be apprehensive, *have anxiety, be anxious, be (unduly) concerned to attend to, care for, be concerned about***

**IDEA:** Back to being like-minded  
It means, to be “one souled” and is often translated “Kindred Spirit”

**Church congregations, and leaders, often miss the power of God's Spirit in their midst, because of confusion, lack of Doctrinal clarity, when it comes to church serving as leaders in the church.**

**Paul and Timothy had no such problem. Unity, comes through humility, and it brings great joy and blessing, and capacity**

**EXAMPLE:** Timothy was not only like minded, but there were several other character traits he had as well.

(1) Timothy was unique. Paul had no one who was like minded with him, but Timothy

**Timothy was one in thought, feeling, and spirit with Paul in love for the church.**

(2) Timothy was sincere in his care for others, meaning he was resolved, decided

(3) Timothy was not seeking his own

**We cannot rise to the standard of friends of God if self is our ruling force; God is not selfish, and he is not the friend of the selfish.**

**Selfishness does not always take the form of greed and is not always 'grabbing'. There is another type of selfishness, the type which shows itself by its lack of concern about the lot of others.**

(4) Timothy was seeking the things which are Christ

Paul had no other like Timothy because, sadly, “all” the others were devoted to their own purposes rather than Christ’s.

(5) Timothy was a man of proven character

The blood that is in us will show itself; we cannot help it.

(6) Timothy serves as a son with his father in the gospel

Jesus gave both his hands to the nails, how can I keep back one of mine from His blessed work?

Paul’s life, and ministry, is one of example, next to the Lord Jesus, Paul’s concerns were for the gospel. Remember, for him to live was Christ, and to die was gain

Strong, Godly, Effective Leadership takes place when one mind, one heart, one goal is set before the team, and each one knows his or her place, and is seeking the things of Christ, not their own. Imagine an athletic team, where each player, neglected the coach, and did whatever they wanted to do.

Paul himself had this natural care for God’s sheep, but he could not just then put his hand upon another of like mind to himself, except Timothy.

The man of God, who feels the force of holy fatherhood, would do anything and everything, possible and impossible, for the sake of his spiritual children; he gladly spends and is spent for them. What a joy indeed to find someone with the same heart and attitude

Though the more he loves the less he may be loved, yet by the force of inward prompting he is impelled to self-denying labor

## I. SUPPORTING OUR LEADERS, PASTOR'S ELDERS

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## II. WORKING OUT THE SUPPORT of our PASTORS, AND ELDERS IN REAL TIME

**IDEA:** There are so many areas of Scripture we could look at, but here are just a couple

**(1) There is delegation of ministry, for the same end. See Ex 18**

- **Moses had his responsibilities and, so did the Godly leaders They served as a team**
- **They allowed Moses to do his job, and Moses let them do theirs, and helped them when needed**

**(2) This model of unity was exemplified in Paul's teaching**

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:10** Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all <sup>[d]</sup> speak the same thing, and *that* there be no <sup>[e]</sup> divisions among you, but *that* you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:11** For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's *household*, that there are <sup>[f]</sup> contentions among you.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:12** Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ."

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:13** Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

**See Philippians 2...**

**(3) There is in, the OT, and the NT,  
the leader among leaders**

- **Peter, Paul, John, and  
Jesus the God man**

**(4) The leaders, leads and, those  
being led, follow the leader, who  
is their servant leader**

**Philippians 3:17** Brethren, join in **following** my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.

**1 Thessalonians 1:6** And you became **followers** of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit,

**2 Thessalonians 3:7** For you yourselves know how you ought to **follow** us, for we were not disorderly among you;

**2 Thessalonians 3:9** not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should **follow** us.

**1 Timothy 4:6** If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully **followed**.

**2 Timothy 3:10** But you have carefully **followed** my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance,

**(5) The Pastor, The Board, the  
Elders, and the Body**

- **The Board, and it's  
Financial Responsibility  
to be accountable to the  
Lord and to our body**

**The board assists the Senior Pastor, in fulfilling the vision and scope, as given by the Lord Jesus to the Senior Pastor. They also assist, in seeing that all policies are carried out, as set forth by the Senior Pastor**

- **The Elders and their Spiritual Responsibility. They are the the ones who are involved in caring for the souls of the saints in the church**

**May I say as the pastor of this church, we have many Timothy's serving in this church**

- **The Deacons and Their Assistance to the pastors and elders in the physical matters of the church**
- **The Body, Individually, using, their spiritual gifts to serve the Lord and the Vision of the Pastor**

**Aspire to be something more than the mass of church members. Lift up your cry to God and beseech him to fire you with a nobler ambition than that which possesses the common Christian—that you may be found faithful unto God at the last, and may win many crowns for your Lord and Master, Christ.**

**If you wish to know God you must know his word; if you wish to perceive his power you must see how he worketh by his word; if you wish to know his purpose before it is actually brought to pass you can only discover it by his word.**

**Jesus gave both his hands to the nails, how can I keep back one of mine from His blessed work?**

**You must have no co-ordinate or even secondary object or divided aim: if you do divide your heart, your life will be a failure. WCo75**

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Could our zeal know no respite, could our prayers know no pause, could our efforts know no relaxation, could we give all we have of time, wealth, talent, and opportunity, could we die a martyr's death a thousand times, would not He, the Best Beloved of our souls, deserve far more? WCo83

I would to God that saints would cling to Christ half as earnestly as sinners cling to the devil. If we were as willing to suffer for God as some are to suffer for their lusts, what perseverance and zeal would be seen on all sides!

When a man yields himself to Jesus he should comprehend his house, his money, his body, his time, his wife, his children,—everything in the deed of surrender; for he who bought us with his precious blood did not buy us with a reserve and leave the devil a mortgage upon us, but we are the Lord's unencumbered freehold for ever.

It is a wicked error to conceive that so much of our life ought to be religious and so much to be secular. A Christian's whole life is to be his religion, and his religion is to saturate his whole life.

Be half a Christian, and you shall have enough religion to make you miserable; be wholly a Christian, and your joy shall be full.

Surely you have some natural faculty or acquired skill which you can lay at his feet.

The cross is the focus of all human history—I was almost going to say it is the center of the life of God, if such a thing can be. All the ages meet in Calvary. Jesus is the central Sun of all events.

All historians must confess that the turning point of the race is the cross of Christ. It would be impossible to fix any other hinge of history. From that moment the power of evil received its mortal wound.

I wish that our ministry—that mine especially—might be tied and tethered to the cross. I have no other subject to set before you but Jesus only.

Leave out the cross, and you have killed the religion of Jesus. Atonement by the blood of Jesus is not an arm of Christian truth; it is the heart of it.

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God made the world without any suffering, but he could not redeem even one soul without agonies unknown.

We cannot afford to be vague and uncertain as to the meaning of the death on the Cross.

The incarnation is not a show. The death on the Cross is not a tableau. No,

The cross is the supreme and the sublimest declaration and revelation of the holiness of God.

The Cross is the greatest display and exposition of the character of the everlasting God ... you do not see that glorious person alone; you look again and see that it is not only the Son that is involved in this Cross. The Father is involved, he is there. Have you ever seen him there?

The hour that produced the cross is the central, pivotal point, of history and God always knew about it, the Lord came for that hour.

'That hour'—His hour—what an hour!

At Calvary God was laying your iniquity on his Son. God was taking your sins and punishing them in him. His blood was shed that your sins might be blotted out. That is the only answer and the only explanation for Christ's death.

There is a sense in which it can be said that the Lord Jesus Christ is the only one who has ever tasted death in all its bitterness and horror. That is why we see Him there sweating blood in the Garden. That is why we hear Him crying out upon the cross. That is why He died so soon and the authorities were surprised that He was already dead. That is why His heart literally broke, it actually ruptured. It was because he *tasted*. And my argument is this: Would God the eternal Father ever allow His only begotten, beloved Son to endure that if it were not absolutely essential? But take another statement which says the same thing—Romans 8:32: 'He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?' Notice especially the first part: The full wrath of God against sin, the full blast of it, descended upon Him.