



A Culture of Honor

Philippians 2:19-30

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Philippians 2:19-30

I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you. 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. But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see how things go with me. And I am confident in the Lord that I myself will come soon. 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. For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill. Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow. Therefore I am all the more eager to send him, so that when you see him again you may be glad and I may have less anxiety. So then, welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honor people like him, because he almost died for the work of Christ. He risked his life to make up for the help you yourselves could not give me.

Philippians 2:25

“my brother” - emotionally connected

“co-worker” - same focus

“fellow soldier” - risked together

1 Corinthians 4:1-2

This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed. Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.

1. You have had an internal change.

Ephesians 4:20

That, however, is not the way of life you learned when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

2. Live knowing and enjoying that the Lord knows and sees everything.

1 Corinthians 4:4

My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me.

Philippians 2:28-29

Therefore I am all the more eager to send him, so that when you see him again you may be glad and I may have less anxiety.

So then, welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honor people like him.

Philippians 2:21-23

For everyone looks out for their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see how things go with me.

This all happened despite:

1. They were an illegal religion during this time.
 2. They didn't have any church buildings as we know them.
 3. They didn't have Bibles like we have now.
 4. They didn't have a formal organization.
 5. They didn't have seeker sensitive services.
 6. They made it hard to join the church.
- Alan Hirsch, *The Forgotten Ways*

2 Timothy 1:6

For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

2 Timothy 1:7

For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.