

GOD'S MODEL FOR MANHOOD

Father's Day

Phil 2:19-30

Paul used two men as examples of the kind of man who will make a difference in the world:

(Timothy) *"I have no one else like him."* Vs. 20

(Epaphroditus) *"...hold men like him in highest honor."* Vs. 29 (Phillips)

1. COMPASSION:

MEN WHO PUT RELATIONSHIP (PEOPLE) BEFORE RESULTS (PROFITS) .

"He is the only one ... who really cares about you. Everyone else is concerned only with his own affairs, not about the cause of Christ." Vs. 20-21

"... they are all wrapped up in their own affairs..." (Phillips)

2. CONSISTENCY:

MEN WHO PUT CHARACTER BEFORE CONFORMITY.

"... Timothy has proved himself ... he has served with me in the work of the gospel." Vs. 22

"The man of integrity walks securely, but he who takes crooked paths will be found out." Proverbs 10:9

Proverbs 20:7

3. COOPERATION:

MEN WHO PUT COOPERATION BEFORE COMPETITION .

"I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier ..." (vs. 25a)

"So all the men of Israel got together and united as one man against the city." Judges 20:11

4. COMMITMENT:

MEN WHO PUT THE CAUSE OF CHRIST BEFORE COMFORT .

(Epaphroditus) *"... is your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs ... He was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him ..."* (vs. 25b-27)

"Faith, by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." James 2:17

5. COURAGE:

MEN WHO PUT SERVICE BEFORE SECURITY .

“Welcome him in the Lord with great joy and honor men like him, because he almost died for the work of Christ, RISKING his life to make up for the help you could not give me.” Vs. 29-30

“So then my brothers, because of God’s great mercy to us ... Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to His service and pleasing to Him. Don’t conform to the standard of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind.” Romans 12:1-2

“Only those who give away their lives for My sake and for the sake of the Good News will ever know what it means to really live.” Mark 8:35

2 Chronicles 16:9