



DO YOU CARE?

Philippians 2:19-24

October 28, 2018

19 But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timotheus shortly unto you, that I also may be of good comfort, when I know your state. 20 For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state. 21 For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's. 22 But ye know the proof of him, that, as a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel. 23 Him therefore I hope to send presently, so soon as I shall see how it will go with me. 24 But I trust in the Lord that I also myself shall come shortly.

19 I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. 20 For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. 21 For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. 22 But you know Timothy's[d] proven worth, how as a son[e] with a father he has served with me in the gospel. 23 I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, 24 and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also.- ESV

There is a common denominator among all people in this world- it is that we want to be cared about.

It has been said that an individual is fortunate if they have five good friends in their life time.

6 Lessons from a Caring Person

➤ 1. They are dependable-19

Ill.- Bryce

Ill.- lowest point in my life who would I call?

May be encouraged (that it will cheer me up) (**eupsuchoe** from **eú** = well + **psuche** = soul, mind) is literally "well-souled" and speaks of the well-being of one's soul, and to be animated or in good spirits. It means to be glad, have courage, be cheered up, be encouraged, be heartened. **Eupsuchoe** is found commonly on sepulchral inscriptions meaning "be of good cheer". Present tense describes a continual attitude. This is the only NT use of this verb.

➤ 2. They take interest in other people- 19, 20

Know their state

Ill.- the gathering

Paul used a similar word in [2:2](#), **sumpsuchos**, which means literally with the same soul, thus of one soul or one mind, united in spirit, in total agreement in attitude, in full agreement, harmonious.

Likeminded- of equal soul

➤ **3. They naturally care- 20**

It becomes second nature- 1 Corinthians 12:25

Ill.- anything you do repetitively - mandolin

No one else (**oudeis** from **ou** = absolutely not + **dé** = but + **heis** = one) is literally "but absolutely not one" or not even one. This is a strong statement regarding Paul's sense of total agreement with Timothy, presumably more than anyone else. It is a very sad commentary. It reminds one of Paul's statements to Timothy shortly before he died...

You are aware of the fact that **all who are in Asia turned away from me**, among whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes. ([2 Timothy 1:15](#))

Demas, having loved this present world, **has deserted me** and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. ([2 Timothy 4:10-](#))

At my first defense **no one supported me**, but **all deserted me**; may it not be counted against them. ([2Ti 4:16-](#))

Spurgeon - Paul himself had this natural care, 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. 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.

➤ **4. They care about the interests of Jesus- 21**

F. B. Meyer said, 'I have only one ambition: to be God's errand boy.'

Lord, send me,

Oh, send me forth, I pray!

The need is great.

Thy call I will obey.

Thy love compels me,

I must go.

I'm longing, ready,

Willing to go.

➤ **5. They are known by their works- 22**

Encouragers Needed (Please Apply) - Discouragement is a problem for many Christians. While they may not be distressed about health, family, or work, they're discouraged about their spiritual service. They compare themselves to others who are gifted with musical talents or the ability to teach the Bible. They see people who are able to give generously and pray with evident effectiveness, but they think they can't do these things. As a result, they feel they are useless to God. They need to realize, however, that every Christian is qualified to carry on at least one helpful ministry--the ministry of encouragement.

Renowned preacher Robert Dale was walking one day in Birmingham, England, where he was pastoring the great Carr's Lane Church. He was under a dark cloud of gloom when a woman came up to him and exclaimed, "God bless you, Dr. Dale. If you could only know how you have made me feel hundreds of times!"

Then off she hurried. Dale later testified,

"The mist broke, the sunlight came, and I breathed the free air of the mountains of God."

The apostle Paul knew how important it was not only to be encouraged by others (2:19) but to be an encourager (Acts 20:2; 27:35-36). That's a ministry all of us can be involved in.

Acts 16:40; Romans 1:12; 2 Corinthians 7:6-7, 13

Proof- great trial

In a bygone day when a prominent soldier was returning from foreign duty, a newly hired driver was sent to the station to pick him up. When he asked how he would recognize the soldier, the soldier's aged mother said, "Look for somebody helping someone else." And sure enough, when

the train pulled in, the driver saw a man assisting an old woman, and it was the soldier! So it was with Timothy.

➤ 6. They are team members- 23

It is said that when Henrietta Mears, one of the most effective American Christians of the twentieth century, would walk into a room, each person often had the feeling that she was saying to him or her, "Where have you been? I've been looking all over for you." Miss Mears's genuine concern for others marked and elevated a whole generation of remarkable leaders. (Kent Hughes)

In describing Timothy's attributes as described in this section by Paul...he is saying in essence that when "you get Timothy, you get me!"

- **The Real Deal**
- **Single-Minded**
- **Fire-Tested**
- **Sonny Boy**
- **Servant**

Wiersbe comments that "In a very real sense, **all** of us live either in [Philippians 1:21](#) or [Philippians 2:21](#)!"

Dietrich Bonhoeffer speaking to our natural tendency even as believers toward selfishness, said:

"We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God. God will be constantly crossing our paths and canceling our plans by sending us people with claims and petitions. We may pass them by, preoccupied with

our more important tasks . . . It is a strange fact that Christians frequently consider their work so important and urgent that they will allow nothing to disturb them . . . But it is part of the discipline of humility that we must not spare our hand where it can perform a service and that we do not assume our schedule is our own to manage, but allow it to be rearranged by God." (Ed: Bonhoeffer clearly practiced what he preached, being martyred by the demonic Nazis just a few weeks before the prison camps were liberated by the Allies.)

$$T + D = G$$

T = Time, D = Discipline and G = Growth. This formula works in every area of life.

They are dependable

They take interest in other people

They naturally care

They care about the interests of Jesus

They are known by their works

They are team members

What's the answer to the problem of verse 20?

One minute takeaway

