

# PENINSULA CHRISTIAN F E L L O W S H I P

## **Philippians 2:17-30 (A.D. 61)** *Living Examples*

**2:1-16** Sets the standard & calls us to live it out

**2:17-18**, “But **even if I am poured out as a drink offering** on the sacrifice and service of your faith, **I am glad and rejoice with all of you.**”

Paul rejoices in **his opportunity to live or die** for their benefit (**1:20-21**)

- He repeats **his exhortation** to rejoice in it with him
- “For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me.”

**\*He embraces Christ’s example in 2:5-8**

Would we celebrate our friend’s sacrifice in our behalf?

**I Corinthians 11:1**, “Imitate me, as I also imitate Christ.” (**A.D. 56**)

**2:19-24** – Timothy’s example (**2:3-4**)

**Vs. 19**, “I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon”

- He reaffirms his confidence in Christ
- He’s sending someone observe how they’re doing

“That I also may be encouraged when I know your state.”

- He states his hope of affirmed confidence in them

**Vs. 20-22**, “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.”

**Vs. 23-24**, “Therefore, I hope to send him as soon as **I see how things go with me.**” (If he dies, there’s no need for Timothy to report back)

- My life is in God’s hands, either way.

“But I trust in the Lord that I myself shall also come shortly.”

**Vs. 25**, “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.”

- **One of you** who is **one with me** (an authentic “joint” ligament)

**Vs. 26-28**, “He was longing for you all, and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick.”

- **Your love** for him, **increases his love** for you (**2:1-2**)
- He almost died, which caused him concern for your comfort (**II Cor. 1:3-4**)
- This letter is one of the **most deeply relational** in the NT

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Paul is providing two **compelling testimonies**

- Personal examples of **2:1-16**

**Proverbs 22:1 & 27:21**

**"A good name** is to be chosen rather than great riches, **Loving favor** rather than silver and gold."

"The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, And a man is valued by **what others say of him.**"

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**Vs. 29-30, "Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem"**

- **"Receive"** – Embrace as one **with you & with the Lord (2:1-2)**

**"He risked his life... in your service to me."**

- He did it in your behalf, **with you & for you**

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Remember – Paul is working to **protect them from division**

- He is reenforcing **their calling, (2:1-16)**
- Such lives **do not live** in division
- God preserved this as **our calling**, as well.
- What will **our lives** give people to say?
- Our testimonies live **beyond** presence