

GOD'S MODEL FOR MANHOOD

Father's Day 2007

– Philippians 2:19-30 –

Paul wrote. . .

– About Timothy - "I have no one else like him..." (vs. 20)

– About Epaphroditus - "...honor men like him." (vs. 29)

1. COMPASSION: Men Who Put _____

Before _____

"I have no one else like him, who takes a genuine interest in your welfare. For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ." (vss. 20-21)

2. CONSISTENCY: Men Who Put _____

Before _____

"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." (vs. 22)

3. COOPERATION: Men Who Put _____

Before _____

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

4. COMMITMENT: Men Who Put _____

Before _____

"Welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honor men like that, because he almost died for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for the help you could not give me." (vss. 28-29)

Application Questions. . .

1. What especially spoke to you in this passage?
2. SMALL but IMPORTANT: Discuss together the significance of the little words "if" and "but" in I Cor. 13:1-3.
3. In what areas do you think many Christians are conforming when perhaps they shouldn't?
4. How well does Acts 2:44 describe your relationship with others in your church? What would have to change for such sharing to be possible?
5. How has your relationship with Jesus affected your lifestyle? Relationships? Priorities? Politics?
6. Think carefully about I Cor. 16:13-14. Then imagine God evaluating the strength and durability of your faith on a scale of one to ten, in which *ten* equals full obedience to the commands in these verses, and *one* equals total disregard of these commands. What score do you think He would assign to you?