

THE ANTITHESIS OF GRUMBLING

Philippians 2:19-24
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INTRODUCTION: AN EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW

It's not unusual for Paul to take little detours from the main subject to talk about details of visits and personal issues and things.

Romans 15:22-29

It wasn't unusual for Paul to send others in his place.

1 Corinthians 4:17; 1 Thessalonians 3:2

It wasn't unusual for Paul to speak of Timothy as a son.

1 Timothy 1:2

What is different though is the great detail he goes to speak of Timothy's character.

Throughout the book Paul is contrasting two types of people.

Chapter 1:

Chapter 3:

Chapter 2:

Paul gives two details about Timothy that show the antithesis of grumbling.

I. A MAN OF GENUINE CARE

A. TIMOTHY MODELED THE CARE OF CHRIST

Matthew 20:26-28

It is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave; just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

Paul consistently exemplified what it meant to not seek self as in 1 Corinthians 10:33.

B. NOT CARE FOR SELF

The word for “own interests” is the same word we saw back in verse 4.

II. A MAN OF PROVEN WORTH

A. SEEN IN HIS WORK IN THE GOSPEL

1 Timothy 3:10

Philippians 1:10

B. DESCRIBED AS A SON WORKING WITH A FATHER

1 Corinthians 4:15

For if you were to have countless tutors in Christ, yet you would not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.

1 Thessalonians 2:11

just as you know how we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children,

CONCLUSION: SPIRITUAL REPRODUCTION

Spiritual Reproduction is another term for making disciples.

John MacArthur

[Jesus] has called us to be engaged in the process of making disciples. This means more than leading people to Jesus Christ. That is not the end of our commission, that is the beginning. We are to reproduce mature disciples who in turn can

reproduce themselves. We are...interested only in the fulfillment of the goal of producing mature and reproductive disciples.

Spiritual reproduction is necessary for the Gospel to go forward, but it takes a lot time and selflessness and focus.

Paul challenges the Philippians: Will you selfishly pursue your own interests, or will you be my children in the Gospel growing and having children of your own?

Application

? Will you strive to be the person Timothy was? Will you train others to be that person also?