



THE

EXAMPLE

OF EPAPHRODITUS

Philippians 2:25 Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need;²⁶ since he was longing for you all, and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick.²⁷ For indeed he was sick almost unto death; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.

Philippians 2:28 Therefore I sent him the more eagerly, that when you see him again you may rejoice, and I may be less sorrowful.²⁹ Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem;³⁰ because for the work of Christ he came close to death, not regarding his life, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.

- ▶ **Exemplifying Christ-likeness is not for the “elite” Christians, but for every Christian.**



- ▶ Who does nothing by selfish ambition, thinks of others as more important than themselves, and looks out for in the interests of others? (**Philippians 2:3-4**)
- ▶ Who has a submissive mind like Christ? (**Philippians 2:5**)
- ▶ Who works out their own salvation with fear and trembling? (**Philippians 2:12**)

- ▶ **Who does all things without complaining and disputing? (Philippians 2:14)**
- ▶ **Who is a blameless child of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, who shines as a bright light in the midst of a dark world, who holds fast to the word of life? (Philippians 2:15-16)**

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HE IS A COMMON MAN

Philippians 2:25a Yet I considered it necessary
to send to you Epaphroditus,



HE IS A COMMON MAN

- ▶ God can take anyone He chooses out of the background and into the forefront. He often does so for His glory.
- ▶ Think of blind Bartimaeus (**Mark 10:46-52**).
- ▶ Think of Demetrius (**3 John 1:12**).

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HE IS A COMMON MAN

- ▶ If anyone thinks that God doesn't know anything about you, that is untrue. He knows the number of hairs on your head **(Luke 12:7)**.



HE IS A COMMON MAN

- ▶ You may think God can't save you because of your background or past, but that is untrue. Look to Calvary.
- ▶ **Romans 5:8** But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.



HE IS A COMMENDABLE MAN

Philippians 2:25b my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need;



HE IS A COMMENDABLE MAN

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.



HE IS A COMMENDABLE MAN

Romans 10:9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.¹¹ For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.”



HE IS A COMPASSIONATE MAN

Philippians 2:26 since he was longing for you all, and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick.



HE IS A COMMITTED MAN

Philippians 2:27 For indeed he was sick almost unto death; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.

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HE IS A COMMITTED MAN

Proverbs 16:9 A man's heart plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps.



HE IS A COMMITTED MAN

Philippians 2:28 Therefore I sent him the more eagerly, that when you see him again you may rejoice, and I may be less sorrowful.²⁹ Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem;³⁰ because for the work of Christ he came close to death, not regarding his life, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.



HE IS A COMMITTED MAN

Matthew 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.²⁵ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.²⁶ For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?”