

Pastor's Weekly Devotional- April 7, 2016

“Onesiphorus – The Refreshing One”

Do you know any secret servants of God? Those behind-the-scenes kind of saints that work hard encouraging, serving and supporting the body of Christ? Such is the case with the faithful servant of God, Onesiphorus.

We only read Onesiphorus' name twice in the New Testament (2 Timothy 1:16-18; 4:19); both times he is commended by Paul. In his final days on earth, the apostle grew nostalgic, remembering people's faces and names, heartaches and blessings, valleys and mountaintops. As he languished in a dark and frightening Roman prison, Paul remembered Onesiphorus, who ministered to him, faithfully, consistently, and regularly without announcement or applause.

Repeatedly, Onesiphorus had gone out of his way to help Paul, even to the point of following him to Rome and painstakingly seeking him out in prison. No wonder Paul described him to Timothy as possessing courage; love, boldness and faithfulness. Paul said of Onesiphorus: “he often refreshed me.”

What about us? Are we faithful, behind-the-scene servants of God? If our names are not read or overlooked, how do we react? Do we refresh others with our words, social media, actions and attitude? Can we think of someone whose life we have touched by our actions or words?

The finish line is in sight. Someday soon, every believer will stand before God. The Lord will say to the faithful only: “Well done, my good and faithful servant” (Matthew 25:21).

However, if your life's challenges have grown a little tougher lately, remember this encouragement: **God defines your success by your faithfulness to the opportunities and abilities He has given you.** When He leads you, He will provide the Grace you will need to follow. Your job is to be found faithful – a faithful servant of God! And ask yourself: “whose life can I refresh this week?” Think of one person and do something about it.

Have a blessed week.
Pastor Sewdin