

The Father's Interests

Phil 2:19-21 NKJV

19 But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your state. 20 For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state. 21 For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.

Week 2 - First Hour

- I. The Apostle Paul claims he wanted to know their _____.
- A. Paul demonstrated _____ for the state of each church he either founded or had significant impact in.
1. His ministry was highly _____.
 2. If he had led people to Christ, into the baptism of the Holy Ghost or ministered to them in a significant way, he would not soon forget nor fail to check up your _____.
- B. _____ are constantly checking on the state of others.
1. Paul typically would write, send someone or _____ himself in order to find out how they were doing.
 2. That is a great example for us to follow as _____.
 3. Regardless of what they may be going through, leaders are _____ interested in the state of others.
- II. Did Jesus ever promote His own _____? The answer is no.
- A. Jesus only advanced and promoted His _____.
1. _____ NKJV, "Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner."
 2. _____ NKJV, "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me."
 3. _____ NKJV, "Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me."

4. _____ NKJV, "Then Jesus said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am *He*, and *that* I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. 29 And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him."
5. _____ NKJV, "For I have not spoken on My own *authority*; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak."
6. _____ NKJV, "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own *authority*; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works."

B. Did Jesus possess the _____ to promote His own interests?

1. I'm convinced that had Jesus not yielded Himself to the Father's interests, He would have come up with His own _____.
2. Would the Heavenly Father be responsible to _____ the _____ of Jesus with signs, wonders and miracles?
3. Little success will come to our lives and ministries until we take the time to _____, get interested in and _____ what our Heavenly Father is interested in.

Philippians 2:19-21 AMPC

19 But I hope and trust in the Lord Jesus soon to send Timothy to you, so that I may also be encouraged and cheered by learning news of you. 20 For I have no one like him [no one of so kindred a spirit] who will be so genuinely interested in your welfare and devoted to your interests. 21 For the others all seek [to advance] their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ (the Messiah).

III. These verses reveal _____ things to us.

- A. No matter what you are _____, it should not keep us from promoting or advancing the interests of our Heavenly Father.
 1. As a leader we cannot _____ letting gown in these areas.
 2. We do not have that _____.
 3. This epistle is called one of the Pauline _____ epistles.

- a. He was in _____ when he wrote, "I want to know how you are."
- b. He was more _____ about discovering the condition of their state than telling them the woes he was going through.
- c. How rare is that _____ compared to our modern culture?
- d. Paul's interest in others was not a result of his _____.
 - i. If so, Paul and Timothy would have had to be called into the same office - they were not.
 - ii. Paul was called to be an apostle, prophet and teacher.
 - iii. Timothy was called to be a pastor and teacher.

Week 2 - Second Hour

- A. No matter what you are _____, it should not keep us from promoting or advancing the interests of our Heavenly Father.
- B. If you are born again, and even Spirit-filled, you are not _____ interested in the Father's interests.
 - 1. Look at the ministry _____ of Jesus and Paul.
 - a. How many times do we see the disciples _____ for their own greatness - in the presence of the truly Great One?
 - b. With all of Paul's connections and associates in the _____ he is connected, there was no one else like Timothy.
 - 2. You see this in the modern church _____.
 - a. What is your typical _____ looking at when they visit your church?
 - b. They're measuring the **value** of a local church based on their _____, _____ and _____.

- c. The _____ experience has shaped the conduct within our churches.
 - i. We _____ rather than participate. Church should interactive.
 - ii. We prefer a casual _____. Casual does not work.
 - iii. We bring _____ while we worship the Almighty.
 - iv. We _____ the experience rather than add to others.
 - v. We're set on _____ rather than serving.
 - vi. We've made it an _____ over a relationship.
 - vii. That atmosphere may draw a _____ but it won't produce Christians.
- C. You can be in the _____ and not promoting the Father's interests.
 - 1. See above.
 - 2. When you become a _____, you give up the _____ to self interests.
- D. It is our _____ to discover the Father's interests and get proactive.
 - 1. His interests will remain _____ until you search for them.
 - 2. Would you like God to _____ to you? Ask Him what He's _____ in.
 - a. There is no such thing as a _____ person. You're simply not on the right _____ yet.
 - b. God is the _____ of the law of sowing and reaping.
 - i. Before you were ever thought of God _____ things you are interested in.
 - ii. Then, from His earliest _____ with you He has been talking to you about your interests.

- iii. I believe He does this with the _____ that someone, someday will turn around and say, "Enough about me and my interests, what are you interested in that I can do for you?"
- E. The _____ of the Church will never come to discover the Father's interests until someone like _____ tells them.
 - 1. As a Christ follower, you will either promote the Father's interests or _____ someone who does.
 - 2. The only other alternative is to miss the _____ .

Week 2 - Third Hour

- I. These verses reveal _____ things to us.
 - A. No matter what you are _____ , it should not keep us from promoting or advancing the interests of our Heavenly Father.
 - B. If you are born again, and even Spirit-filled, you are not _____ interested in the Father's interests.
 - C. You can be in the _____ and not promoting the Father's interests.
 - D. It is our _____ to discover the Father's interests and get proactive.
 - E. The _____ of the Church will never come to discover the Father's interests until someone like _____ tells them.
 - F. You can be a leader and be interested in the Father's interests and have _____ for you who are not.
 - 1. Those who are not will always be a _____ to those who are.
 - 2. Remember the _____ Peter received from Jesus:

Matthew 16:23 NKJV

“But He turned and said to Peter, “Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.”

3. You can set your _____ on _____ at any time you want.

Colossians 3:1-2 NKJV

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

Colossians 3:1-2 AMP

Therefore if you have been raised with Christ [to a new life, sharing in His resurrection from the dead], keep seeking the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind and keep focused habitually on the things above [the heavenly things], not on things that are on the earth [which have only temporal value].

Colossians 3:1-2 Message

So if you're serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, act like it. Pursue the things over which Christ presides. Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. Look up, and be alert to what is going on around Christ—that's where the action is. See things from his perspective.

- a. There is a _____ that comes when you set your affections on Him that will keep you from _____.
 - b. You will even set aside personal _____ out of loyalty to Him.
- G. The only people who will have _____ are those who determine the Father's interests and promote them.
- 1. Out of ALL of Paul's followers the only one we hear anything about is _____.
 - 2. Great men of God all have those who follow them, but the ones who will _____ in life are the ones who discover the Father's interests and advance them.