



BEYOND THE CAP AND GOWN

PHILIPPIANS 2:19-30

A. Experience [Philippians 2:19-24]

Your Personal Résumé Matters

**Everything you've done can be part of God's plan
to equip you for His mission.**

B. Consistency [Philippians 2:22]

Just Show Up!

90% of success in life is simply showing up!!!

-Swindoll

Don't aim for just a good day—pursue a faithful decade.

C. Sacrifice [Philippians 2:25-29]

Go the Extra Mile (Epaphroditus' Example)

**Stretching past your limits is
part of being built into something greater.**

Discussion Questions/Prayer

[1] Read Philippians 2:19-24.

How does Timothy's life demonstrate that past experiences prepare us for future assignments in God's mission?

[2] Read I John 3:16-18 and I Peter 4:10-11.

What does it mean to show real love through consistent, sacrificial action, and how can we apply this in serving others?

[3] Read Philippians 2:25-30 and Matthew 5:41.

How does Epaphroditus' example illustrate the importance of sacrifice and stepping beyond our comfort zone in fulfilling God's mission?

[4] Pray for God to equip you to step beyond your comfort zone and live out your faith authentically, reflecting God's grace and compassion, and for the strength to pursue God's mission faithfully, trusting in His plan for our lives.

[Philippians 2:19-24] I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. ²⁰ For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. ²¹ For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. ²² But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel. ²³ I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, ²⁴ and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also.

**Timothy's life shows that your past experiences
are preparation for future assignments.**

[Romans 12:11 (NLT)] Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically.

[Ephesians 2:10] For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Serving others becomes a unique expression of God's love.

[I Peter 4:10] As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace . . .

[2 Corinthians 5:20a] ... we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.

Real love is seen in consistent, sacrificial action.

[I John 3:16-18] By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷ But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

[Philippians 2:25-26] I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, ²⁶ for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill.

[Philippians 2:27-30] Indeed he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. ²⁸ I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. ²⁹ So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and honor such men, ³⁰ for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.

True mission often begins beyond your comfort zone.

[Matthew 5:41] And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.

[I Peter 2:5] You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

**Real mission requires real sacrifice—
and that's where real impact begins. - Chris Turnley**