



MESSAGE: NATHAN BAIRD

MUSIC: DAN GILLETTE

DATE: MAY 16, 2021

UNION WITH CHRIST PRODUCES LOYAL LOVE
2 Timothy 1:15-18

From last week:

13 Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

1 John 3:16 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?

The absence of Loyal Love: those who deserted Paul

15 You are aware that all who are in Asia turned away from me, among whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes.

The presence of Loyal Love: one who sacrificed for Paul's sake

Loyal love is seen in...

1. ...soothing care for suffering brothers and sisters.

16a "May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me..."

2. ...commitment in the face of social pressure.

16b "...was not ashamed of my chains,"

Romans 1:8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God,

3. ...persistent compassion.

*17 ...but when he arrived in Rome he searched for me earnestly and **found me**—*

4. ...desiring to please Jesus.

18a *may the Lord grant him to **find mercy** from the Lord on that day!*

Matthew 25:34-40 *Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' ... 40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'*

5. ...an established pattern of doing good.

18 b *"...and you well know all the service he rendered at Ephesus."*

Discussion & Reflection Questions

1. Think of a Christian sister or brother who has treated you like Onesiphorus cared for Paul. In what specific ways did she or he give evidence they were following the pattern of Jesus's faithfulness and love? *(Bonus: Commend them this week (if possible) through a note, text, email or conversation.)*
2. Think of specific ways you have cared for other Christians in need. What motivated you to action?
3. What current social pressures test your loyal love? What truth from this passage helps confront that issue?
4. **Read Romans 12:9-18.** Compare Paul's description of the life of love to his account of Onesiphorus.

SONGS

"Grateful" – Stefan Green, Chris Brown, Matthew Ntlele, and Steven Furtick

"The Lion And The Lamb" – Brenton Brown, Brian Johnson, and Leeland Mooring

"How Great Thou Art" – Carl Gustav Boberg

"Cornerstone" - William Batchelder Bradbury, Eric Liljero, Reuben Morgan, Edward Mote, and Jonas Myrin

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$47,874.90

WEEKLY NEED: \$35,272.00

YTD GIVING: \$587,932.49

YTD GENERAL NEED: \$670,168.00