

# A FEW GOOD MEN 2

## EPAPHRODITUS—"HONOR MEN LIKE HIM"

**Michael  
Jordan**



### AMERICA'S FAVORITES

Movie Star .....Clint Eastwood  
Sports .....Michael Jordan  
Television .....Tim Allen  
Music.....Garth Brooks  
*from a 1993 Harris poll of 1,200 adults*

**Tim  
Allen**

**Garth  
Brooks**

### TOOLBOX



THINK



OBSERVE



CLOSE-UP



WRITE



DISCUSS



FEELINGS



BRAINSTORM



REFERENCE



PASSAGE



ARTICLE



BIG IDEA



CROSSROAD



### YOUR INPUT

Why are these the most popular men in our culture?



### YOUR INPUT

What does this say about who our society embraces as models for manhood?



### FOR DISCUSSION

What influence do these models have on our view of manhood?

### THOUGHTS



"Clearly, boys and young males today do not know what men and masculinity are really like. They are modeling themselves after cartoonish action heroes and perennially alienated kids."  
-Frank Pittman, in his book *Man Enough: Fathers, Sons, and the Search for Masculinity*



## MEMORY

Philippians 2:15-24

Timothy . . .

genuine interest

proved himself



## THE MODEL OF TIMOTHY

1. A model of COMPASSION
2. A model of CHARACTER

## EPAPHRODITUS- "HONOR MEN LIKE HIM"

### LIFE STORY—EPAPHRODITUS

- Highly commended by Paul
- Sent by the church of Philippi to Paul during his imprisonment in Rome
- Delivered an offering (from the church at Philippi) which was to help Paul
- Took six weeks to travel by foot the 800 miles to Rome
- Returned to Philippi, bearing the epistle from Paul to the church

### PHILIPPIANS 2:25-30

- 25 But I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs.
- 26 For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill.
- 27 Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow.
- 28 Therefore I am all the more eager to send him, so that when you see him again you may be glad and I may have less anxiety.
- 29 Welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and **honor men like him,**
- 30 because he almost died for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for the help you could not give me.





## OBSERVATIONS: TRUTHS ABOUT EPAPHRODITUS

List some facts about Epaphroditus that you observe from this passage.



### WORD STUDY

**BROTHER  
FELLOW-WORKER  
FELLOW-SOLDIER**

Key idea: \_\_\_\_\_



### WORD STUDY

**RISKING**

Key idea: \_\_\_\_\_

### COURAGE?



### COOPERATION

Seen in Epaphroditus then:



### COURAGE

Seen in Epaphroditus then:



If Epaphroditus were a student today here at our school, how might he demonstrate...

Cooperation?

Courage?

**Remember . . . we are male by birth, men by choice.**

In choosing to become a man, we need to recognize . . .



### OUR PART

Choose the right models



### GOD'S PART

Philippians 1:6—Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 2:13—For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

### CHANGING MODELS FOR MANHOOD



Reject wrong models

Accept God's model



### LIFE INTERSECTION

To what degree does my life presently reflect  
God's model of these two qualities?

#### COOPERATION

← Never— | Always— →  
I did it MY way | I do it OUR way

Who should I cooperate with?  
How?

#### COURAGE

← Never— | Always— →  
Play it safe | Take a stand

Where do I need to demonstrate courage?  
How?

### SHAKESPEARE

"Cowards die many times  
before their death; the  
valiant never taste of death  
but once."

—from *Julius Caesar*

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture references are taken from the *New International Version*, ©1973, 1978, 1984 by the International Bible Society. Published by Zondervan Bible Publishers, Grand Rapids, Michigan.