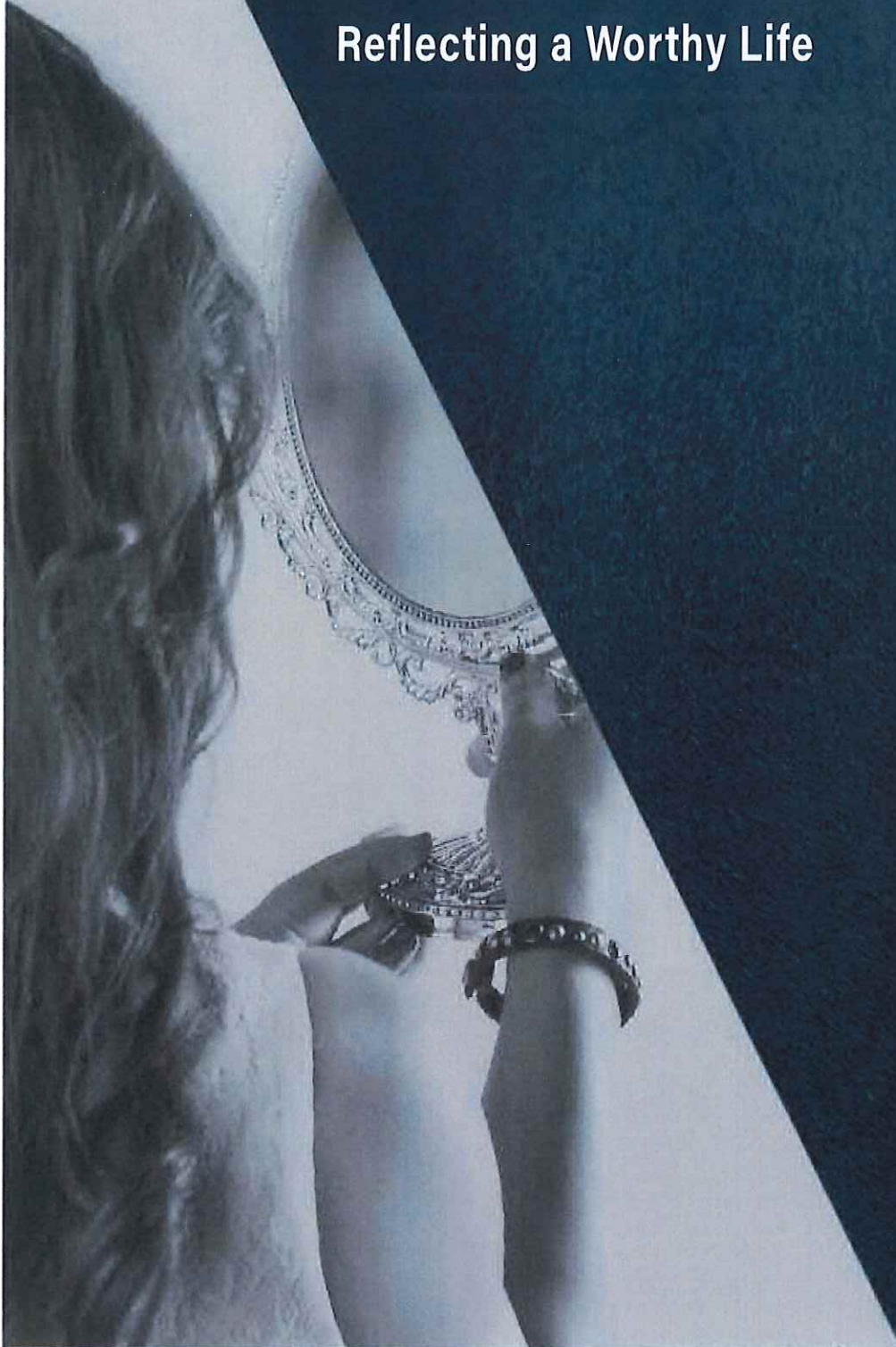


REFLECTION

LESSON 5

Reflecting a Worthy Life



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Reflecting a Worthy Life

Philippians 1:27-2:4

HOW DO WE LIVE WORTHY OF THE GOSPEL?

- A. What should our conduct be like?
1. We should conduct ourselves as **citizens**.

"Live...as worthy citizens of your heavenly homeland!"

Gordon Fee

2. We should conduct ourselves as a **team**.

B. What is the outcome of a unified spirit?

1. There will be no **fear**.
2. There will be **assurance**.

"Your change in character, your united stand in defense of the gospel, your ability to withstand with meekness... constitutes a sign.... It is a sign of assurance that these believers really are the people of God!"

D. A. Carson

WHAT ARE THE RESULTS OF WORTHY LIVING?

"The grace of being permitted to believe in Christ is surpassed by the grace of being permitted to suffer for Him, of being permitted to walk the way of Christ with Christ Himself to the perfection of fellowship with Him."

Karl Barth

- A. We have received the gift of **salvation**.
- B. We have received the gift of **suffering** with **Jesus**.
 - 1. How is that a **gift**?
 - 2. How do I **function**?

HOW DO WE STAND FIRM IN OUR CALL?

- A. We become strong on the **inside**.
 - 1. Be strong through **unity**.
 - 2. Be strong through the **ingredients** of **unity**.
 - a. The ingredient of **unity** with Christ
 - b. The ingredient of **love**
 - c. The ingredient of the **Spirit**
- B. What are the results of the ingredients of unity?
 - 1. Being **like-minded**
 - 2. Being **humble**

"Within the modern Western context...the temptation to follow personalities rather than Christ is strong in the modern church.... We must relinquish our fascination with personalities, including our own, and get busy with the unimpressive tasks of helping our brothers and sisters at their points of need."

Frank Thielman

- a. Putting **others first**
- b. Promoting the **needs** of **others**

Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Seven Principles of Life Together

Christians should hold their tongues, refusing to speak uncharitably about a Christian brother.

Christians should cultivate the humility that comes from understanding that they, like Paul, are the greatest of sinners and can only live in God's sight by His grace.

Christians should listen "long and patiently" so that they will understand their fellow Christian's need.

Christians should refuse to consider their time and calling so valuable that they cannot be interrupted to help with unexpected needs, no matter how small or menial.

Christians should bear the burden of their brothers and sisters in the Lord, both by preserving their freedom and by forgiving their sinful abuse of that freedom.

Christians should declare God's Word to their fellow believers when they need to hear it.

Christians should understand that Christian authority is characterized by service and does not call attention to the person who performs the service.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Life Together