

UNSUNG HEROES

OF THE BIBLE

ONESIPHORUS

Growth Group Opener:

Has there ever been a time when you've felt deserted?

Read: 2 Timothy 1:15-18; Proverbs 11:25; Hebrews 6:10

What stood out to you about Onesiphorus from this passage and this week's sermon?

What character traits can we observe about Onesiphorus, even in so few verses? How does he stand out in contrast to the first verse of the passage?

What words do you notice when you look at how Onesiphorus cared for Paul?

How does God view our efforts when we care for each other, as Onesiphorus did?

Paul was in a physical prison when he was writing this letter, but we all have friends who are in different kinds of prisons: sickness, failure, rejection, grief. Paul likely needed many kinds of refreshment: physical, emotional, and spiritual. Many of the difficulties listed above need the same kind of refreshment.

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How might you bring refreshment and encouragement to someone in some kind of prison, whether it be a physical prison or metaphorical like the examples above?

Who is someone working hard for the faith, whether a pastor or fellow disciple, that you could reach out and encourage, or refresh somehow, the way Onesiphorus did?

What can we learn about God from this passage?

Is there anything you feel the Holy Spirit nudging you to look at more closely?

Prayer:

Father, thank you for caring about our needs, and for sending your children to care for each other. Lord, help us to be encouragers, bringing much needed refreshment to the people around us. Fill us with your Spirit so that the refreshment he brings will flow out of us, into the world, and into our spiritual brothers and sisters that need it. In the name of Jesus, amen.

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