January 10, 2021 **Pastor Andy McClellan**

Series: "How's Your Attitude?"

Title: "An Attitude of Honor" **Philippians 2:19-30**

Outline:

1. We honor those who are **EXAMPLES** of Christ among us, vv. 20-22
   (cf. vv. 3-8; 3:17; John 13:14-17; Romans 13:7; 1 Corinthians 4:16; Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Peter 2:4-6; 1 Timothy 4:12; 2 Tim. 3:10).

2. We honor those who serve us **SACRIFICALLY** for the sake of Christ, vv. 20-22, 25-30
   (cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13; 1 Cor. 16:15-18; 2 Cor. 4:11; Colossians 4:12; 2 Tim. 2:4).

3. We honor these, because they are fellow "**ESSENTIAL WORKERS**" for the Gospel, vv. 19-20, 25, 30
   (cf. v. 8; 4:3, 18; Romans 12:10; 1 Cor. 16:16-18; 2 Cor. 8:16-24; Eph. 4:12; Col. 4:7-14).

Paul notes in Phil. 2:22 that Timothy had proven his worth by serving *with* Paul in the gospel "as a son with a father." Notice he doesn't say that he served Paul as a son with a father, but that he served *with* Paul as a son with a father. What does that mean? How does a child work with or serve with a parent? How can that happen in the work of the Gospel? Discuss with your family the opportunities you have in front of you for both parents and children to serve Christ and His Gospel together, and then make a plan to do so.

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT, STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1. Read Phil. 2:1-30. Remind yourself how Christ sacrificially put others' interest above His own. How do the lives of Paul, Timothy and Epaphroditus exemplify the mind of Christ and putting others' interests above *their* own? What opportunities do you currently have to follow their example as they followed the example of Christ?

2. What is meant today by the phrase, "essential workers"? Why are they essential and what effect has it had on their work to be given that title? Why were both Timothy and Epaphroditus essential workers for the Gospel in the lives of Paul and the Philippian church? What services did they offer to them? Read Eph. 4:11-16. Do you consider yourself an essential worker for the Gospel? What would happen to the work of the Gospel in your circle of influence if you weren't able to report for work?

3. In Phil. 2:29, Paul tells the Philippians to honor ("hold in high regard") men such as Epaphroditus because of his willingness to sacrifice for the work of Christ. Who are some men and women in your life who are worthy of this kind of honor? How might you "honor" them for their sacrificial service to you and to Christ?

4. Some might object to honoring people, or being honored by people, for fear that it would take honor away from Christ and place it on an individual. How is honoring people as Paul commands in Phil. 2 (and in Rom. 12:10; 13:7; 1 Tim. 5:17) a way to honor Christ as well?

NEXT WEEK: – "My Attitude about My Identity"- Philippians 3:1-11

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