

Daily Devotions

Day 1: The Refreshing Power of Faithfulness

Reading: Proverbs 20:6; Proverbs 17:17

Many claim loyalty, but true faithfulness is proven through consistent action. Onesiphorus didn't visit Paul once and disappear—he came often, repeatedly refreshing Paul's weary spirit in that dark prison. Faithfulness isn't about grand gestures; it's about showing up again and again. Consider the relationships in your life. Are you reliable? Do people know they can count on you not just once, but consistently? God values the steady, faithful servant over the spectacular but inconsistent one. Today, identify one person who needs encouragement and commit to being a refreshing presence in their life—not just today, but regularly. Your faithful presence may be exactly what sustains someone through their darkest hour.

Day 2: Courage in the Face of Shame

Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-12; Romans 1:16

Onesiphorus wasn't ashamed to associate with Paul, even though it meant being linked to a convicted criminal during intense persecution. This required tremendous courage. In our culture, standing with Christ and His people can still bring ridicule, career consequences, or social rejection. Yet Paul challenges us: "Never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord." What risks are you avoiding because of potential shame? Who in your circle needs someone to stand courageously beside them? The gospel itself carries power, but it needs messengers willing to bear potential shame. Ask God for courage today—not reckless foolishness, but Spirit-empowered boldness to identify publicly with Jesus and His followers, regardless of the cost.

Day 3: Relentless Pursuit

Reading: Luke 15:3-7; 2 Timothy 1:17

Onesiphorus traveled over 800 miles and then searched relentlessly through Rome until he found Paul. This mirrors how Jesus pursues lost sheep—never giving up, searching diligently until they're found. Who has God placed on your heart that needs relentless pursuit? Perhaps someone who's walked away from faith, struggling in isolation, or simply needs to know they matter. Relentless love doesn't accept easy excuses or convenient stopping points. It keeps knocking, keeps reaching out, keeps praying. Onesiphorus's determination brought life-giving encouragement to Paul's final days. Your persistent pursuit of someone might be the very thing that saves them from despair. Don't give up. Keep searching. Keep loving. The reward of reconnection is worth every effort.

Day 4: Living for Future Rewards

Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:9-10; Matthew 25:14-23

Paul prayed that God would reward Onesiphorus at the Judgment Seat of Christ. This wasn't about salvation—that's secured by faith alone. Rather, it's about rewards for faithful service. Every sacrifice, every risk, every act of love done for Christ will be acknowledged and rewarded. This eternal perspective transforms how we live today. The hardships you endure for righteousness, the unpopular stands you take, the sacrifices nobody sees—none are forgotten. Are you living with eternity in mind? Do your daily choices reflect belief in future rewards? Don't live merely for earthly recognition that fades. Invest in eternal rewards. One day, you'll stand before Christ. Will you hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant"?

Day 5: Be an Onesiphorus

Reading: Philippians 2:19-24; Hebrews 10:24-25

Onesiphorus embodied four qualities: he was refreshing, courageous, relentless, and ultimately rewarded. His name means "profit-bringer"—and he lived up to it, bringing immeasurable profit to Paul's spirit. As you conclude this devotional journey, ask yourself: Am I an Onesiphorus to anyone? Who needs me to show up consistently, stand courageously beside them, and pursue them relentlessly? The body of Christ desperately needs more people like Onesiphorus—faithful friends who don't abandon others in hard times. Commit today to being that person for someone. Visit them. Encourage them. Don't be ashamed of their struggles. Search them out if they've withdrawn. Your faithfulness may sustain them through their darkest season, and God will certainly reward your devotion.

Deacons on Call

Danny Bell and John Gray

Weekly Events

- **Worship:** Sundays at 9:45 AM
- **Small Groups:** Sundays at 11 AM
- **Deep Dive:** Wednesdays at Noon and 6:45 PM
- **First Kids:** See you at VBS ... **June 28-July 1**
- **First Youth:** See Eric for end of school and summer schedule

Welcome

WE'RE SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

TODAY'S MESSAGE

Hello, My Name is Onesiphorus

2 Timothy 1:16-18

Verses we all
need to Memorize

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. **GALATIANS 2:20** ESV

MAY 17, 2026

Onesiphorus

2 TIMOTHY 1:16-18

Most of us have a hard time saying this man's name, but Paul knew it well. He was a loyal friend to the apostle, especially in his darkest hour. In just three verses we find characteristics of this wonderful man who's been overlooked for far too long. If you have a friend like this, you're blessed.

1. Onesiphorus was _____.

2. Onesiphorus was _____.

3. Onesiphorus was _____.

4. Onesiphorus was _____.

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to be a friend?
2. Read **2 Timothy 1:16-18**. Is there anything from the sermon you would like to discuss?
3. What does it mean to be a refreshing presence to someone who is suffering or isolated, and who in your life might need that kind of consistent encouragement right now?
4. Read **Proverbs 20:6**. Why is consistent faithfulness so rare? What makes it difficult?
5. How does the example of Onesiphorus searching relentlessly for Paul until he found him reflect the way Christ pursues us?
6. How should that shape the way we pursue others?
7. In what areas of your Christian life are you being faithful occasionally rather than consistently and repeatedly?
8. What would it look like to change that pattern?
9. Read **Luke 16:10**. How does that apply to your current responsibilities?
10. The sermon mentioned the Judgment Seat of Christ (Bema Seat) where believers are rewarded for faithfulness. How does knowing you'll give an account of your life motivate you? Does it change how you view your daily choices?
11. What have you done over the last month to impact your oikos? Read the oikism below. What are you doing to change your world?

Scripture References (In order of use): Proverbs 20:6; John 15:14; Luke 16:10; Proverbs 17:17; John 5:24; Matthew 25:23

Reference Works: 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus—To Guard the Deposit (Kent R. Hughes); 1 Thessalonians through Philemon (Robert E. Picirilli, Stanley W. Outlaw, Daryl Ellis); 2 Timothy (Charles H. Spurgeon); Paul's Fourth Missionary Journey: I Timothy, Titus, II Timothy (Bob Utley); Dear Timothy: Letters on Pastoral Ministry (Thomas K. Ascol)



**Jesus didn't ask you to change the world.
He only asked you to change yours.**