

Where's Your Chair?

Philippians 2 19-31



Commit your ways to the Lord and put your trust in him, and he will bring it to pass. He will make your righteousness as clear as the light and your just dealing as the noon day.

Psalm 37:5-6

Praising:

Put all your trust in God;
in duty's path go on;
walk in his strength with faith and hope,
so shall your work be done.
No profit can you gain
by self-consuming care;
to him commend your cause; his ear
attends the softest prayer.

Reading:

Philippians 2:19:3:1
Timothy and Epaphroditus

In just a few lines St Paul sketches out the key qualities of the co-workers he hopes to send to join the Philippians. What sets Timothy apart is his genuine concern for the Philippians' welfare. Timothy's motives are not mixed. He is not out for what

he can get for himself in any way. Timothy's prime care and consideration is for the people he serves, as a son longs to serve his father. It says much for Epaphroditus, that what distressed him most was not the seriousness of his own illness. The fact that other people were anxious and worried about him bothered Epaphroditus far more. Above all else, what Paul seems to be looking for in the people who work alongside him in the Gospel, is a reckless and sacrificial lack of self-regard.

Listening:

Praying:

When the urge to self-protection threatens to rein in our love

- Lord open up to us new ways to give and to serve
- Lord smother our own anxieties with the joy of relieving those of other people
- Lord take us back to the cross and that sacrifice which bought our salvation

Father: I can't give to every good cause or solve all the problems of the world, but I can respond spontaneously and generously the next time real need presents itself. As Christ did. Amen

Doing: