

EPAPHRODITUS...a Biblical role model

Reference: **Philippians 2:25-30**

Pastor Larry Webb

Weldon Hardenbrook authored a book called "Missing From Action: the vanishing manhood in America." In part of that book, he discusses four models of missing manhood:

- the _____
- the _____
- the _____
- the _____

In this message, we're discussing a biblical character that modeled authentic manhood: his name was Epaphroditus.

verse twenty-five, "*Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need;*"

It is interesting that Paul used five different words or phrases to describe Epaphroditus.

ONE is that Epaphroditus was a spiritual _____
verse twenty-five cont'd, "*Epaphroditus, my brother...*"

Reference: **John 1:11** and **12** (see screen)

Paul uses the familial terms "brother and brethren" some _____ times in the New Testament in referring to the relationship Christians have to one another.

TWO is that Epaphroditus was a _____
verse twenty-five cont'd, "*...fellow worker*"

THREE is that Epaphroditus was a _____
verse twenty-five cont'd, "*...and fellow soldier*"

Reference: **Judges 20:11**, "*So all the men of Israel were gathered against the city, united together as one man.*"

FOUR is that Epaphroditus was a _____
verse twenty-five cont'd, "*...but your messenger*"

This messenger is the Greek word "apostolos" which could be translated as apostle. The word **apostle** means "one that is _____" or **messenger**.

FIVE is that Epaphroditus was a _____
verse twenty-five cont'd, "*...and the one who ministered to my need.*"

This word "minister" means _____

Definition: a servant is someone that senses a need and takes personal responsibility to _____ that _____.

Next Paul explained the reason he felt compelled to send Epaphroditus back to the congregation at Philippi.

Reference: **verses twenty-six** through **thirty** (see screen)

Notice this phrase "not regarding his life." That word "regarding" in the original language meant "_____."
Epaphroditus was hazarding and risking his own life in order to serve and assist Paul.