

## WHO WILL FILL THEIR SHOES?

### 1 Corinthians 4:17 NCV

I remember when Tim Miller got sent out to pioneer in CA, and PG asked a question during his farewell service, of Tim & Yesenia: *Who will fill their shoes?*

Tim had opened doors of Evangelistic opportunity (halfway houses, evangelism nights, follow up fellowships), He and his wife were fruitful, almost every baptism just about every convert would say in their testimony “*I want to thank Tim & Sen*” He was a natural leader and elevated ministry & concert ministry, men rose up to lead outreaches and organize special events... *Who will fill their shoes?* ... That question challenged & stirred my wife and I!

As we send out Ayele & Adrienne, I ask you- *Who will fill their shoes?*

In the passage we are going to look at, Paul highlights why he sent Timothy to Corinth, because he is like me, *he can fill my shoes*- ... In reference to Ayele & Adrienne: Who will fill their shoes?

**1 Corinthians 4:17 NCV** That is why I am sending to you Timothy, my son in the Lord. I love Timothy, and he is faithful. He will help you remember my way of life in Christ Jesus, just as I teach it in all the churches everywhere.

#### I SAME SPIRIT:

**A-** Timothy captured the heart and spirit of His Pastor-

1. It is evident that he loved what Paul loved!

a. **1 Corinthians 4:17 NCV** That is why I am sending to you Timothy, my son in the Lord. I love Timothy, and he is faithful.

2. He was faithful to what his Pastor was faithful to

a. Not for a time, or only when convenient, or when it benefitted Timothy... He had proven this over time-

b. **Phil 2:22** But you know Timothy's proven worth, that as a child with his father he has served with me to advance the gospel.

i. Over time it became evident that Timothy valued the same things Ps Paul did-

3. What is the spirit of the Leaders you admire? Do you have the same qualities in you?

a. It gives me great encouragement when people tell me *you sound like your Pastor, you have the same spirit, you have the same wisdom...* THAT WAS CONTENDED FOR!

#### II SAME PATTERN:

**A- 1 Corinthians 4:17 NCV** He will help you remember my way of life in Christ Jesus, just as I teach it in all the churches everywhere.

1. Timothy declared the same truth as Paul... He wasn't looking for something else, he was doing what he was taught-

2. This is why Paul could entrust him with various tasks-

a. **Acts 19:22** He sent two of his helpers, Timothy and Erastus, to Macedonia, while he stayed for a time in the province of Asia... Paul could depend on Timothy to help and meet needs!

b. **Phil 2:19** Now I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I learn how you are doing... Here again is the record of reliability... Timothy will do what I do!

3. **PG** has said of Ps Steven, Ps Tim, Ps Jonathan... If I send them, its like I go because they have may spirit and will do it like me!

a. That gives such great confidence-

#### III SAME RESULTS:

**A-** By Paul sending Timothy, he had a confidence that the church would be helped as if he himself were there.

1. **1 Corinthians 4:17 NCV** He will help you remember my way of life in Christ Jesus, just as I teach it in all the churches everywhere... He will minister just like I minister, and the results will be the same

2. **1 Thess 3:2** We sent Timothy, our brother and fellow worker for God in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith... Timothy can be sent because the results will be beneficial!

3. So, as we send another couple that has caught the same SPIRIT, PATTERN, and I am confident will see the same RESULTS... *Who will fill their shoes?*