



## Small Group Discussion Guide

**ICE BREAKER:** What is your favorite part of Winter? (Spring is not an acceptable answer.)

**INSTRUCTIONS:** If your group meets bi-weekly, do 2 & 4.

1. Who in your life would you say is an example of kindness? How is that kindness expressed to you? How was Onesiphorus's kindness expressed to Paul (see 2 Timothy 1:15-16; 4:7, 9-10, 16)?
2. Has there ever been someone in your life who was **unwaveringly (steady or resolute)** kind to you; even when you didn't deserve it? How was Onesiphorus unwavering in his kindness? Do we show kindness in spite of the circumstances (theirs or ours)? What circumstances might make it difficult to show unwavering kindness? How are those circumstances barriers to showing that kindness? What circumstance was a major barrier for Onesiphorus to show kindness to Paul? How did he overcome this? How might we overcome the barriers in our own lives (2 Timothy 1:8, 16b)?
3. Read 2 Timothy 1:17. How was Onesiphorus **persistently (continuing firmly in spite of difficulty or opposition)** kind to Paul? How have people expressed this type of persistent kindness to you in difficult times? Pastor Tom quoted Henry stating, "A good man will seek the opportunity of doing good, and will not shun that offer." Is there an opportunity for you to show kindness to someone in your life right now? What steps can you take this week to accomplish this?
4. Pastor Tom showed us how Onesiphorus was **consistently (unchanging in nature, standard or effect over time)** kind. He said, "His ministry as an encourager wasn't dependent on how things were at work, other's responses, or moods and feelings." How can the actions and reactions of others make showing kindness difficult? Pastor Tom went on to explain that this type of consistent kindness must come from Spirit-produced character. Are there opportunities for you to allow the Spirit to grow your character in showing kindness? How so? How can we set off on a path to being consistently kind this week?

## Personal Guide for Week of January 14th

**DAY 1 - Read Luke 6:27-36.** Do you have enemies in your life? How can you show kindness to them this week?

**DAY 2 - Read 1 Peter 3:8-17.** How might you return evil with blessing?

**DAY 3 - Read 2 Thessalonians 3:13.** How can this command apply to how you show kindness?

**DAY 4 - Read Romans 2:1-4.** What is the right response to God's kindness in our lives?

**DAY 5 - Read Galatians 5:16-26.** Kindness is part of the Fruit of the Spirit. How can you pursue the Spirit's work in your life today?



## Message Notes & Small Group Discussion // Personal Guides

"Obscure Onesiphorus"

Week of January 14, 2018



**“Nothing Ordinary: Obscure Onesiphorus”**  
[Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]

**MESSAGE NOTES**

We live in a celebrity \_\_\_\_\_ culture.

“O-ne-siph-orus” = bringing \_\_\_\_\_”

The advantage he brought to Paul can be summed up in one word:

\_\_\_\_\_

**1. Onesiphorus Was R\_\_\_\_\_ Kind**  
**(note II Timothy 1:16a)**

“...often r\_\_\_\_\_ me.” (NIV)

(note II Timothy 1:15; 4:9-10, 16)

Word picture—“\_\_\_\_\_ me up”

Note II Timothy 4:7

He may have brought material help; but it was his friendship and personal \_\_\_\_\_ that was of greatest value to Paul.

We want to be around people who are “encouraging and refreshing” instead of negative, complaining, and \_\_\_\_\_.

**2. Onesiphorus Was U\_\_\_\_\_ Kind**  
**(note II Timothy 1:16b)**

He was an object lesson for \_\_\_\_\_ (note II Timothy 1:8).

At times God’s people are burdened with “\_\_\_\_\_” (i.e., suffering, sorrow, struggles, etc.)...

Do we show kindness in spite of the c\_\_\_\_\_ (theirs and ours)?

**3. Onesiphorus Was P\_\_\_\_\_ Kind**

**(note II Timothy 1:17)**

A good man will seek the opportunity of doing good, and will not \_\_\_\_\_ that offer. (Henry)

**4. Onesiphorus Was C\_\_\_\_\_ Kind**

**(note II Timothy 1:18b)**

His \_\_\_\_\_ as an encourager wasn’t dependent on how things were at work, other’s responses, or moods and feelings.

Part of a \_\_\_\_\_-produced character...

Because God doesn’t make anything or anyone ordinary:

- I want to encourage those of you who are like Onesiphorus...who “refresh” us...our church and our lives would be \_\_\_\_\_ and hurting without you.
- And while it may help to have the spiritual gifts of helps, encouragement, mercy, or hospitality, “kindness” is one of the ways that \_\_\_\_\_, which is the fruit of the Spirit, is expressed (note Galatians 5:22).
- Are we open to the \_\_\_\_\_ producing greater expressions of kindness through our lives to others?
- Greatness in following and serving Jesus is often defined by kindness, being a “refreshing” person to others...

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey.

Perhaps your next step is to join the launch team for the Sauk Rapids campus! Use the connect card to let us know about your commitment, too!



**“Obscure Onesiphorus”**  
Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor

**MESSAGE NOTES**

We live in a celebrity enamored culture.

“O-ne-siph-orus” = “bringing advantage”

The advantage he brought to Paul can be summed up in one word: Kindness

**1. Onesiphorus Was Repeatedly Kind (note 2 Timothy 1:16a)**

“...often refreshed me.” (NIV)

Note 2 Timothy 1:15; 4:9-10, 16

Word picture = “braced me up”

Note 2 Timothy 4:7

He may have brought material help; but it was his friendship and personal presence that was of greatest value to Paul.

We want to be around people who are “encouraging and refreshing” instead of negative, complaining, and self-focused.

**2. Onesiphorus Was Unwaveringly Kind (note 2 Timothy 1:16b)**

He was an object lesson for Timothy (note 2 Timothy 1:8).

At times God’s people are burdened with “chains” (i.e., suffering, sorrow, struggles, etc.)...

Do we show kindness in spite of the circumstances (theirs and ours)?

**3. Onesiphorus Was Persistently Kind (note 2 Timothy 1:17)**

*A good man will seek the opportunity of doing good, and will not shun that offer. (Henry)*

**4. Onesiphorus Was Consistently Kind (note 2 Timothy 1:18b)**

His ministry as an encourager wasn’t dependent on how things were at work, other’s responses, or moods and feelings.

Part of a Spirit-produced character...

*Because God doesn’t make anything or anyone ordinary:*

- I want to encourage those of you who are like Onesiphorus...who “refresh” us...our church and our lives would be poorer and hurting without you.
- And while it may help to have the spiritual gifts of helps, encouragement, mercy, or hospitality, “kindness” is one of the ways that love, which is the fruit of the Spirit, is expressed (note Galatians 5:22).
- Are we open to the Holy Spirit producing greater expressions of kindness through our lives to others?
- Greatness in following and serving Jesus is often defined by kindness, being a “refreshing” person to others...

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey. **Perhaps your next step is to join the launch team for the Sauk Rapids campus!** Use the connect card to let us know about your commitment, too!