

Character Counts: Building a Life That Pleases God

The Refreshment of Onesiphorus

2 TIMOTHY 1:15–18



The Heart of the Matter

Our thoughts turn to one of the lesser-known people in Scripture. A man whose fame was eclipsed by Paul's, he played a vital role in the life of his better-known counterpart. His name? Onesiphorus, pronounced "Oh-neh-SIF-ah-russ." His contribution in character? Refreshment . . . that rare yet wonderful ability to give breathing room, to provide cooling relief, to help in the healing process. How we need such people today!



Discovering the Way

1. Spiritual Gifts Versus Spiritual Ministries

Spiritual gifts are for individuals, while spiritual ministries, such as refreshment, are for everyone.

2. Paul's Need for Refreshment (2 Timothy 1:15)

Paul sat alone in a dungeon, having been deserted by many friends.

3. A Friend Worth Remembering (2 Timothy 1:16–18)

Onesiphorus served as a cooling presence of refreshment for Paul, often bringing help and comfort to the apostle.

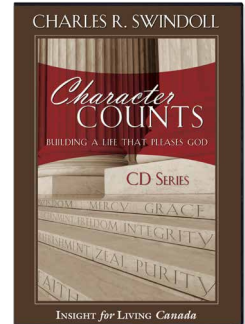


Starting Your Journey

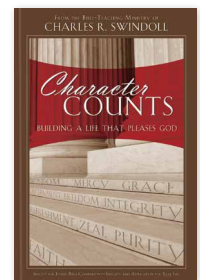
Six qualities are necessary to engage in the ministry of refreshment: *unselfishness, availability, sensitivity, determination, a positive attitude, and compassion.*



Tools for Digging Deeper



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