NBC Devotional September 7, 2022 "Make It Better Where You Are"

Do you remember when you made an extra effort to counsel a student searching for answers? God saw that. Remember when you were awakened in the middle of the night with a student on your heart and invested intercessory prayer? God saw that. How about when a student was facing a serious financial need and you gave financially to help make a difference? God saw that. What about when you made a phone call just to check on a student to see how he or she were doing? God saw that. And remember when you bought a card and mailed it to a student with a note of encouragement? God saw that too!

Spirit-led efforts like these remind me of a lesser-known servant who Paul mentions in 2nd Timothy 1:16-18

"The Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesisphorus, for he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains; but when he was in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me – the Lord grant him to find mercy from the Lord on that day; and you know very well what services he rendered at Ephesus" (NASB).

Although Onesisphorus is not known for high visibility or prominence, he made it better where he was.

- He made an extra effort.
- He took a risk.
- He was persistent.
- He was sacrificial with both time and money.
- He continued his previous dedication that was obvious in Ephesus.

So, let's continue our Spirit-led dedication and pursuits. Let's walk through the doors the Lord opens for us to serve. With God's help, we will make it better where we are!

The Hebrew author provides encouragement in chapter 6, verse 10:

"For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, by having served and by still serving the saints" (NASB).

Thank you to each one who serves in and through Nazarene Bible College. You are making a significant and substantial difference. You have influence and impact. What you do is effective and enduring, and the results are edifying and eternal. You are making a significant difference in the lives of your students, which in turn is multiplied in their various ministries.

Dr. Norman Moore