TMS Sem Wives
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HEAVENLY-MINDED ROLE MODELS
(Philippians 3:17-4:1)

Introduction:

- Good News / Bad News – Only 95 days until graduation!
- You will be thrust into church ministry as a recognized leader as a pastor's wife. You will be viewed by many women in the church as a role model.
- A role model is defined as "a person whose behavior in a particular setting [for example, the local church] is imitated by others."
- The question you should be asking is "who are the role models for me as a role model?"
- Paul gave the answer to your question in this passage.

I. THE COMMAND TO HAVE ROLE MODELS (3:17; cf. 3:7-14)

A. The Command to Imitate Paul with other Believers

B. The Command to Search Out Other Believers to Imitate

1. A Personal Quest

2. Evaluate Their Behavior according to the Standard of Paul's Behavior

II. THE FALSE AND TRUE ROLE MODELS (3:18-21)

A. The Role Models to Avoid: Those Who Are Merely Earthly Minded (3:18-19)

1. Their Theology: They Are Enemies of the Cross of Christ (cf. 3:9)

2. Their Characteristics

a. They Are Heading to Judgment [i.e., Unbelievers]

b. Their God is their Belly [i.e., Concerned with what enters the body]

c. Their Glory is their Shame [i.e., Concerned with what the body looks like]

B. The Role Models to Follow: Those Who Are Heavenly Minded (3:20-21)

1. Their Theology: They Are Citizens of Heaven [i.e., in Union with Christ] (cf. 3:7-8)

2. Their Characteristics (cf. 3:10-11)

a. They Are Eagerly Expecting Jesus to Return from Heaven

b. They Are Anticipating their Resurrection Bodies

c. They Are Believers in Christ's Kingly Power

III. A FINAL COMMAND: Stand Firm in the Lord (4:1; cf. 1:27)

Conclusion:

- Learn to Imitate the Behavior of Paul – Be a Student of Scripture!
- Search out Heavenly-Minded Role Models to Imitate while you are at TMS – Sem Wife Leaders and their assistants? Others?
- Be creative in maintaining contact with your TMS Role Models when you depart.
- Search diligently for heavenly-minded Role Models in your local church and community.