SET THE EXAMPLE
PHILIPPIANS 3:17

FOCAL PASSAGE: PHIL 3:17 "JOIN WITH OTHERS IN FOLLOWING MY EXAMPLE, BROTHERS, AND TAKE NOTE OF THOSE WHO LIVE ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN WE GAVE YOU.
BIBLICAL TRUTH: PAUL URGED BELIEVERS TO FOLLOW HIS EXAMPLE OF ENTHUSIASM, PERSERVERANCE, AND MATURITY.
BUSINESS IMPACT: EVERYDAY IS A NEW DAY, A NEW OPPORTUNITY. BY BEING PASSIONATE ABOUT WHAT YOU DO, YOU WILL SET THE TONE FOR OTHERS TO FOLLOW.
MICHAEL MOORE: I'LL NEVER FORGET MY FIRST REAL JOB. I WAS A MERCHANIDSE MANAGER FOR J.C. PENNEY. THERE WERE MANY THINGS THAT WILL ALWAYS BE A REMINDER TO ME IN THAT FIRST JOB.

1) **I CAN'T EXPECT SOMEONE ELSE TO DO SOMETHING I WOULDN'T DO**. IT WAS MY FIRST JOB AND I THOUGHT I WAS THE BIG BOSS AND I TOLD PEOPLE TO PICK UP THAT PIECE OF PAPER, GO GET THIS, GO GET THAT. WOULDN'T IT BE MORE EFFECTIVE TO SET THE EXAMPLE AND PICK UP THAT PIECE OF PAPER OF THE GROUND? GO HELP THAT EMPLOYEE GET THE STOCK OUT OF THE ROOM. I LACKED **ENTHUSIASM** FOR WHAT I WAS BEING PAID TO DO.
2) **BEING THE BOSS IS ABOUT WORKING A LITTLE LONGER, A LITTLE HARDER, AND NOT WANTING OR DESIRING THE RECOGNITION.** I THINK THE TOUGHEST SHIFT FOR A J.C. PENNEY MANAGER WAS WHEN WE HAD TO WORK 12 OUT OF 13 DAYS IN A ROW TO GET 3 DAYS OFF. IT WAS TIRING, BUT EVERYDAY I HAD TO WALK IN WITH A SMILE ON MY FACE READY TO START A NEW DAY. **IT WAS ABOUT PERSERVERANCE** GALATIANS 6:9 SAYS "LET US NOT BECOME WEARY IN DOING GOOD FOR AT THE PROPER TIME WE WILL REAP A HARVEST IF WE DO NOT GIVE UP."
3) THE OLDER I GET, THE MORE KNOWLEDGE I ACRUE. THINGS I DID IN THE PAST I PRAY I WON'T DO AGAIIN IN THE FUTURE. IT IS ABOUT **MATURITY.**

I REMEMBER THE STORY ABOUT A YOUNG BOY AND HIS DAD WALKING PAST A MEADOW OF COWS. THE YOUNG BOY SAID TO HIS DAD LET'S RUN DOWN THERE AND TIP ONE OF THOSE COWS. THE DAD SAID, NO SON, LET'S WALK DOWN THERE AND TIP THEM ALL.
WELL I'M CERTAINLY NOT TELLING YOU TO GO COW TIPPING. WHAT I'M SAYING IS WE OFTEN TRY THE SHOTGUN APPROACH TO THE LONG-TERM APPROACH. ONE'S MORE FUN, THE OTHER TAKES MORE TIME. ONE'S EXCITING AND DANGEROUS, THE OTHER MORE CALCULATED AND SAFER.
WE MUST LEARN FROM OUR MISTAKES. OUR EMPLOYEES, OUR ASSOICATES AND MOST IMPORTANTLY THE LOST AROUND US NEED TO SEE OUR ENTHUSIASM, OUR PERSERVERANCE, AND OUR SPIRITUAL MATURITY. IT'S ABOUT GLORIFYING THE LORD AND BRINGING OTHERS TO KNOW HIM AND NOTHING ELSE.
REMEMBER YOU ARE THE ONLY BIBLE SOME PEOPLE WILL EVER READ.

YOU CAN PREACH A BETTER SERMON WITH YOUR LIFE THAN WITH YOUR LIPS—OLIVER GOLDSMITH—
PEOPLE WILL DOUBT WHAT YOU SAY, BUT THEY WILL ALWAYS BELIEVE WHAT YOU DO—ANONYMOUS—

PRAY THAT YOU WILL BE A GODLY EXAMPLE TO ALL YOU SEE AND ALL WHO SEE YOU