

DEVOTION TWO

WEARING IS CARING

KEY SCRIPTURE (PHILIPPIANS 1:27-28): “Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God.”

Who hates school uniforms? I did, tucking in your shirt, feeling sticky and hot in summer uniform but not allowed to take your blazer off. The teachers say, ‘You represent the school, so wear it well’. When you walk around with ‘Ravenswood’ or ‘Barker’ or ‘PLC’ on your Jersey, people think a particular thing about you, don’t they? In a way, you represent the school to people at the station or on the street, right? They might think better or worse of your school depending on your behaviour.

In this verse, Paul urges the Philippians church to ‘wear their uniform well’ to represent their faith to the world. Have you ever thought that you are representative of Jesus? Think about that for a moment. If you’ve accepted Christ, you are walking around with his name on you. You’re a member of his team, wearing a “Jesus Christ” jersey. So, it makes sense for you to honour his name with what you do.

If you’re representing Jesus, you have a responsibility and a privilege to share him with the world by seeking to imitate his love and kindness. Paul in Ephesians talks about being “kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you” (Eph 4:32 ESV). So, we are encouraged to be obedient in loving and caring for others. Christ cared for the sick, suffering, and lonely. How can you do the same?

REFLECT: Are you living with the heart knowledge that you ‘Bear the name of Christ?’ Wearing HIS ‘Jersey’? Can people in your life see that you are wearing the Jesus Jersey? Are you representing the team well? What might you need to change? It might help to write your reflections in a notebook.

PRAY: Thank God that He has called you into life following him. Pray that God will help you represent him well to those around you today and this week.