



Shelby Christian Church

WE OVER ME: KILLING ME-FIRST THINKING * PHILIPPIANS 2:19-24, 2 TIMOTHY 1:8-18
2/22/2026

What are one or two words you hope other people use to describe you? Why are these character traits important to you?

| HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ PHILIPPIANS 2:19-24

What two or three words would you choose to describe Timothy and his ministry?

How would you characterize the relationship between Paul and Timothy? In what ways did their close bond strengthen their ministry for the gospel? When have you experienced a similar kind of partnership?

Timothy modeled genuine concern for others. What distinguishes false concern from true, Christlike care? Why is authentic concern such an essential quality for ministry? What do you think Paul meant when he wrote in verse 21, “all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ”?

If every member of our church truly sought Christ’s interests before their own, how might that reshape our church and our wider community? Take a moment to reflect on your actions this week. Which choices showed that you were putting others first? Which revealed that you were prioritizing yourself?

According to verse 22, what was Timothy’s mission, and how did he serve alongside Paul as a co-laborer?

| HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 2 TIMOTHY 1:8-18

What was Paul concerned that Timothy might be ashamed of?

What specific aspects of Paul’s ministry and witness did Paul fear would cause Timothy or others to feel shame?

How did Paul describe the gospel? What language did Paul use to explain the nature and power of the gospel, and how does that shape our understanding of it?

Why was Paul concerned about shame? What circumstances made shame a real temptation for believers during this time? What kept Paul from being ashamed of the gospel? What keeps you from being ashamed—or tempted to be ashamed—of your faith today?

What was Paul urging Timothy to do? In light of these challenges, how did Paul call Timothy to respond in his ministry and leadership? What situation motivated Paul to call Timothy to faithful teaching (v. 15)? What had happened among the churches and their leaders that made this exhortation necessary?

How does reflecting on what you have learned and experienced help you persevere as a co-laborer in the gospel? In what ways can remembering God's past faithfulness strengthen you to continue serving alongside other believers?

How does the Holy Spirit help you face the future? What role does the Spirit play in giving courage, guarding truth, and sustaining you in ministry challenges?

APPLICATION

Paul highlighted three key missionary traits in Timothy's life—concern for others, compassion, and a commitment to co-laboring in ministry. Which of these areas do you most need to strengthen in your own life? How can our group encourage one another and practice accountability as we grow in these qualities together?

Do you freely offer praise and encouragement, or do you find that affirming others comes more naturally to some than to you? In what ways do you need to grow in recognizing and celebrating the work God is doing through others?

What specific service or calling do you believe God has placed on your heart for His kingdom? How are you presently serving with faithfulness and dedication in that calling?

When believers live as “shining stars”—authentic, visible examples of Christian faith—how does their witness impact others? In what ways do such lives powerfully point people to Christ and help guide others toward obedient, Christ-centered living?

PRAYER