

Philippians Study Week 5

Philippians 2:19-30

It's amazing that a section of scripture that seems to just be an ending or a farewell, can hold so much goodness and teaching. Timothy was in Rome with Paul as he wrote this letter, and had been with him when this church was established. He loved Timothy and trusted him enough to send him out. Join us this week as we glean from the final words of chapter two.

*****Read Philippians 2:19-30*****

SERVE OTHERS

Notice in verse 20 and 21, Paul notices that most believers are far too preoccupied with their own needs and wants, than to give their life to serve Jesus. In our culture it is so easy to allow our schedules, technology, and the pace of life to distract us from what matters most... serving and loving others.

- **How much of your time do you spend serving others? How preoccupied are you with yourself and your schedule? Who in your life do you look to as somebody who serves and loves well? Who in your life is hardest to love?**
 - Read the following verses and discuss how they are related
 - 1 Corinthians 16:10
 - 2 Timothy 3:10
 - 1 Peter 4:10-11
 - Acts 20:35
 - Galatians 5:13-14
 - Matthew 20:28
 - Mark 9:35
 - Matthew 23:11
 - Proverbs 18:1

Read Philippians 2:22

Paul was training, discipling and preparing Timothy to continue his legacy and ministry. We see this in the workplace, we train employees to take our positions someday or in case something happens to us, there is somebody who can take our place. Life and Christianity are no different. We must have people who are pouring into and leading us. As well as people we are leading and pouring into.

- **Who is leading and discipling you? If you have no one... why? Who are you leading and discipling? If you have no one... why?**
 - Read the following verses and discuss how they are related.
 - Hebrews 13:17
 - 1 Peter 5:5
 - Ephesians 5:21
 - John 12:26
 - Luke 9:23
 - Matthew 4:19
 - Matthew 28:19-20
 - 1 Corinthians 11:1
 - Titus 2:7
 - 2 Timothy 2:24
 - Psalm 32:8

Read Philippians 2:23-30

This was a crazy time in Paul's life. He was in prison for preaching about Jesus and awaiting trial or a verdict of some sort. He was telling the Philippines that once he knew his fate, he would send Timothy the news. In verse 25 Paul speaks of another friend Epaphroditus, whole speaks of as a brother and soldier. He may have been an elder in the church, but nonetheless, he was of importance and people were worried about his health.

- **When people think of you, what words come to their mind to describe you? Are you somebody that is trustworthy and people can count on you to do a job? Are you somebody who serves those around you? Think about your days, are you more consumed by thoughts about you and your plans, or by serving and loving others?**
 - Read the following verses and discuss how they are related.
 - Romans 12:3

- Romans 16:2
- 1 Corinthians 16:17-18
- Acts 20:24

With verses 29 and 30 in mind, who should the church honor? The world looks to superficial things to honor such as beauty, rank, cars, athleticism, intelligence and power... but who or what should the church honor? Paul makes it clear that those who deserve the most honor are those who serve and give their whole lives for Jesus. Remember what Jesus said in Matthew 23, that the greatest among us shall be your servant.