

Epistle to the Philippians 2:19-30

Book Structure

- I. Thankful Prayer (1:1-11)
- II. Paul's Missionary Report (1:12-26)
- III. God's Call to Be Holy (1:27-2:30)
- IV. Doctrinal Polemics (3:1-4:1)
- V. Joyful Partnership (4:2-23)

Session 7 Outline

God's Call to be Holy 1:27-2:30
Christian Citizenship 1:27-2:4
Christian Humility 2:5-11
Christian Obedience 2:12-18
Christian Service 2:19-30
 Paul 2:19, 23-24
 Timothy 2:20-22
 Epaphroditus 2:25-30



The Team

- Paul: Jew, apostle, 60s?
- Timothy: Mixed, trainee, 30s?
- Epaphroditus: Greek, helper, 20s?
- Philippians: Mixed congregation.

Paul

¹⁹ I hope that the Lord Jesus will soon allow me to send Timothy to you, so that I can be glad to know how things are with you.

- Hope: Pray and let the Lord decide.
- Send: Make opportunities for others.
- Glad: Genuine interest in people.
- Know: Inquire and listen.

Timothy

²⁰ I currently have no other likeminded companion who genuinely cares about your welfare.

²¹ All the others seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.

- Likeminded: Agree on ministry goals.
- Care: Care about people.
- Interests: Seek Christ's interests.

²² You are familiar with Timothy's proven character, how he serves the Good News with me, like a son working with his father.

- Proven: Observed over time.
- Serves: Focused on outcomes.
- Father: Mentorship in ministry.

Mentorship in Ministry

Do these activities every time you meet, in person or one line:

- Pray for wisdom (Jam 1:5).
- Listen to reports (Luke 10:17)
- Plan next steps to implement.
- Authorize to obey Jesus' commands.
- Assign Bible reading.
- Intercede for others & outcomes.

Paul

²³ So, I hope to send him, as soon as I learn how things are with me. ²⁴ And I am convinced by the Lord that I myself shall soon come see you.

- Learn: Details unpredictable.
- Convinced: Sense the future strongly.
- The Lord: Make him our companion.

Epaphroditus

²⁵ And, I think it is best for me to send Epaphroditus back to you, whom you sent to take care of my practical needs, although he has been like a brother to me, as well as a coworker and a fellow soldier.

- Sent: Literally, "your apostle."
- Coworker: No 'rank' in kingdom work.

²⁶ This is because he has been longing to see you all, and has been distressed because you heard that he was sick. ²⁷ Indeed, he was very sick and nearly died.

- Longing: Belonging = a human need.
- Sick : The human condition.
- Died: Always be ready to go!

Philippians

²⁸ Therefore, I am eager to send him, so that you will be glad to see him again, and that I will have less to worry about. ²⁹ So, please, welcome him with full joy in the Lord.

- Eager: Or 'urgently'.
- Worry: Or 'anxiety'.
- Welcome: Or 'accept'.

Epaphroditus

And honor men like him, ³⁰ because he nearly died to work for Christ. He risked his life in order to complete what you were not to do in serving me.

- Honor: Do not despise as a quitter.
- Risk: The true cost of mission.
- Serve: Lit., 'liturgy', service to God.

Discuss

What are some character traits to look for in missionary personnel?