

Philippians Study: Having a Real Relationship with Jesus

Part Two: A New Humility

Lesson 7: Philippians 2:19–30

Read the passage carefully several times

1. In verse 19, what does Paul's desire to send Timothy reveal about his heart for the Philippian church? Read verses 20–21. Paul highly commends Timothy. What qualities does he highlight? Why is this contrast with others so significant for that community?
2. How does Timothy's "other-centered" care reflect the humility of Jesus described earlier in chapter 2? How can we cultivate a heart like Timothy's in our own community?
3. Paul uses several titles to describe Epaphroditus (brother, fellow worker, fellow soldier, messenger, minister). What do these terms tell us about their relationship and shared mission? Read verses 26–27. Epaphroditus risked his life and suffered greatly for the gospel. What does this tell us about his relationship with Christ?
4. Paul tells the Philippians to "receive him in the Lord with all joy" and to "honor such men" (v. 29). Why is it important to recognize and honor those who serve sacrificially? In what ways does Epaphroditus' life serve as a practical example of the "New Humility" Paul is teaching in this chapter?
5. How do both Timothy and Epaphroditus show us what a real relationship with Christ looks like? How can our own relationship with Christ change the way we view our Christian brothers and sisters?