

ROAD TO JOY: A STUDY OF PHILIPPIANS

The Joy of Teammates, Philippians 2:19-30

LEARNING THE WORD

1. Read Philippians 2:19-30. Why do you think passages like this are included in the Bible? How might they reveal a different but important perspective on following Jesus?
2. Paul presents Timothy and Epaphroditus as examples of Christ-like character (described in Philippians 2:1-11) who demonstrate “lives worthy of the gospel.” What qualities do they display?
3. Throughout the letter, Paul uses the phrase “in the Lord” to speak of the centrality of a relationship with God (hope *in the Lord*, confidence *in the Lord*, receive him *in the Lord*, etc.). How does this focus provide a theological grounding for everything else in the Christian life?
4. Read Ephesians 4:11-16. According to verses 11-12, why did Jesus give leaders to the church? In these verses, who are “the saints” that do the work of the ministry which builds up the body? To summarize the main idea, how has God *designed* the church to grow *together*?

LIVING THE WORD

5. Who has been a Timothy or Epaphroditus in your life? Why is it so important for us to see examples “in the flesh”?
6. Read Romans 12:10. What are some ways we can outdo one another in showing honor in our church family?
7. Can you remember a time when you experienced the joy of being on a team (sports, band, work, etc.) with others seeking a great goal? How is the “team” of the church similar? How is it different?
8. How does this study give you a fresh perspective on the benefits of life-giving, Christ-centered friendships and the joy of being on a team seeking the common cause of Christ?
9. What is one way you want to live out what you’ve learned in these verses or through this lesson?