



Learning from Fellow Laborers

Philippians 2:19-30

Big Idea: The church is a community embodying Christ's selfless love. We are all sent to show Timothy's genuine care and Epaphroditus' selfless sacrifice.

Outline:

1. The Church is a Community of Family Members and Fellow Laborers
2. We are Sent to Show Timothy's Genuine Care
3. We are Sent to Show Epaphroditus' Selfless Sacrifice

Discussion Questions:

1. Look again at the labels that Paul uses to describe Paul and Timothy in Philippians 2:19-30. What do these labels tell us about our identity as Christians and as a church community?
2. Despite the slowness of communication and travel in the ancient world, the believers in this passage seem to be very well “connected.” How can we be “connected” to each other in a similar way?
3. Prayer for others is one way we can engage as a fellow laborer in gospel work (Phil. 1:19). What are other ways to serve “the work of Christ” (vs. 30)?
4. How can we “celebrate” and “cheer on” the work of the ministry in our church?
5. Why do you think it’s so rare to come across someone like Timothy “who is genuinely concerned” for the interests of others?
6. Surface level interest in others isn’t necessarily bad (a handshake and asking questions about their lives), but how can we show the kind of “genuine” and “proven” concern for others that Timothy had?
7. How can we celebrate and “honor” one another as fellow laborers in the gospel?
8. What can we learn from Epaphroditus’ faithfulness even through sickness?