

Living with Open Hands

Philippians 2:19-30

1. Our **God** sends. (All throughout the Bible)
 - Paul was sent and **continued sending**.

“While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’ Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.” Acts 13:2-3

“And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, ‘Come over to Macedonia and help us.’ And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.” Acts 16:9-10

2 Timothy 4:10b-12 - Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry. Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus.

1 Thessalonians 3:2 - “And we sent Timothy, our brother and God’s coworker in the gospel of Christ, to establish and exhort you in the faith.”

- Because God is a **sending** God, His Church must be a **sending** Church.
 - You are **sent**.
 - “Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.’” - John 20:21
 - We send for the sake of **mission** and **maturity**.
- 2. Investing and Sending Timothy & Epaphroditus – Examples of **sincerity** and **sacrifice**
 - Spent **time** together.
 - They served **with** one another. (2:22; 2:25)
 - They were **focused** on gospel work. (2:22; 2:25; 2:30)
- 3. Questions for reflection:
 - Who is investing in you?
 - Who are you investing in?
 - Who are your references?
 - Who are you willing to send for gospel work?

The secret to joy is living, investing, and sending with open hands.