



Discussion Guide

April 19

Philippians 2:19-30

¹⁹ I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you. ²⁰ I have no one else like him, who will show genuine concern for your welfare. ²¹ For everyone looks out for their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. ²² But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. ²³ I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see how things go with me. ²⁴ And I am confident in the Lord that I myself will come soon.

²⁵ But I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, co-worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs. ²⁶ For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill. ²⁷ Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow.

²⁸ Therefore I am all the more eager to send him, so that when you see him again you may be glad and I may have less anxiety. ²⁹ So then, welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honor people like him, ³⁰ because he almost died for the work of Christ. He risked his life to make up for the help you yourselves could not give me.

Philippians 2:19-24

1. What qualities does Paul highlight about Timothy's character?

2. Paul says Timothy shows “genuine concern” for the Philippians. What does genuine concern for others look like in practice?
3. Paul was deeply invested in Timothy’s progress in the gospel. Who is your Timothy?

Philippians 2:25–27

4. How does Paul describe Epaphroditus, and what do those descriptions reveal about the kind of people who advance God’s work?
5. What stands out to you about Epaphroditus’ willingness to serve even at great personal risk?
6. Why do you think Paul openly shares the emotional weight he felt during Epaphroditus’ illness?

Philippians 2:28–30

7. Why does Paul encourage the church to honor people like Epaphroditus?
8. What does this passage teach us about how the church should recognize and value sacrificial service?
9. In what ways might God be inviting us to live with the same courage and commitment we see in Timothy and Epaphroditus?