



PRESS ON

A LETTER FROM PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Pressing On Together

Discussion Guide | Oct. 25th, 2020

Before you begin, please read Philippians 2:19-30

1. Think of 2-3 good friends in your life. (Either good friends you have now, or from some previous time in your life.) What made these friendships so meaningful?
2. How have you become more aware of the value of personal relationships / friendships in your life over the last six months? Explain.
3. Look closely at the passage. Make a list of all the ways that Paul describes Timothy (verses 19-24) and Epaphroditus (verses 25-30).
4. Choose one or two of these qualities (see preceding question), then answer the following:
 - Why would this quality have been important for Paul? (Think of Paul's situation – isolated and in prison, unable to physically minister to others because of his confinement, etc.)
 - In what ways is this quality still important for close personal relationships today?
 - What might it look like to live out this same quality in your life?
5. Read Philippians 2:3-4. How are both Timothy and Epaphroditus examples of this humility Paul is urging the church toward? (In your response, use language directly from Philippians 2:19-30.)
6. Why is it so valuable to have models (or examples) of the Christian life, who can give us a picture (even though it's always imperfect!) of what following Jesus looks like?
7. Who has modeled the Christian life well for you? In what ways?
8. How do Timothy and Epaphroditus serve as “partners in the gospel” with Paul? Why are personal relationships so valuable in multiplying the impact of the gospel?
9. Why is the local church important in cultivating the close relationships, the modeling, and the gospel partnership that we see in Philippians 2:19-30?
10. Identify one take-away you're leaving with, from your time studying and discussing this passage. What practical steps will you take this week to live in light of this?
11. **“Press On” Challenge** – Write short notes (postcard, text, etc.) to 3 different people in your life – expressing gratitude for your relationship and encouraging them spiritually.