



THIS WEEK

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH, KAILUA KONA, HAWAII

events

Aloha! Thank you for joining us this morning. If you would like to know us better, please visit the welcome table.

Nursery and Kids' Church are available. Parents, please sign-in your children at the nursery.

Our Annual Voting Meeting is today immediately after the service. Members, please stay.

Men's Breakfast is Saturday, Jan 14 at 8 am

Food Drive next Sunday Jan 15

Pickleball (all ages) Wednesdays 6-7:30 pm

Kid's Basketball Saturdays noon

Ways to Give:

- Online on our website or app
- Giving box on Sundays
- Mail a check to the church

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Andrew Severinsen
Philippians 2:12-30

Big Idea: Advancing the gospel, through our unity, fueled by our humility, is what we are about. Paul now tells us to, "Go do it!" *We make every effort to live out our faith knowing that it is God who is empowering us.*

- Working out what God's working in:
- Examples to follow:
 - ✦ Be humble like Jesus.
 - ✦ Be humble like Timothy & Epaphroditus

GRACE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

SEEING CHRIST IN OTHERS

While this section of the letter has its own purposes of updating the Philippians on practical matters, Timothy and Epaphroditus also serve as real-life examples of the Christlike attitude and actions that Paul calls the Philippians to in Philippians 2:1–8. Timothy exemplifies concern and selflessness (Phil. 2:20–21). Both Timothy and Epaphroditus have “served” Paul in his need (Phil. 2:22, 25). Epaphroditus is concerned for the Philippians; even selflessly concerned for their concern for him (Phil. 2:26). A supreme mark of Christlikeness, he was willing to lay down his life for the Philippians, for Paul, and for the gospel mission (Phil. 2:30). Paul never explicitly says that the Philippians should follow the examples of Timothy and Epaphroditus—he doesn’t need to; it is clearly implied. While Christ is the perfect example (and the only saving sacrifice), God is good to give us imperfect but important examples of Christlikeness to watch and imitate. Paul will make this point more explicitly later in this letter (Phil. 3:17; 4:9).

What does it mean?

1. How is Paul continuing the big idea from Philippians 1:1-2:11?
2. How might “work out your own salvation” be misinterpreted? How does it fit into this passage?
3. Why does Paul use the words “fear and trembling”? Why might those words be significant?
4. What is Paul communicating in the verses to follow? (verses 14-18)
5. Why did Paul plan to send Timothy to the Philippians?
6. In Paul’s view, why did Timothy stand out? Explain.
7. Who was Epaphroditus? How would you paraphrase his core characteristics?
8. In what ways would Paul experience less anxiousness? Does this contradict Paul’s earlier statement of “to live is Christ and to die is gain”?

How does it apply?

1. If effort is such a big deal to Paul, what would it look like for us to put in more effort in our everyday experience in this journey of following Jesus (sanctification)?
2. How do I determine the level of effort I’m putting into this journey, or whether I’m simply floating along?
3. Who are those in your life that take a “genuine interest in the welfare of others”? How have you observed that in their life?
4. In what ways have you seen people take an interest in others that is not genuinely looking to serve the interest of others?
5. What can we do as a group that could help show our communities that we have a genuine interest for them? How can we implement these ideas?