

LESSON 7: 2:19-30 Model Servants**Suggested Study Questions from last week's lesson handout.**

1. Why does Paul wish to send Timothy and Epaphroditus to the church?
2. What does that indicate about Paul's mentality and thoughts toward the church?
3. What commendations & character traits does Paul highlight about Timothy?
4. What commendations & character traits does Paul highlight about Epaphroditus?
5. What kind of men should we hold in high regard?

Philippians 2:19–30 (NASB95)

¹⁹ But I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, so that I also may be encouraged when I learn of your condition. ²⁰ For I have no one *else* of kindred spirit who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare. ²¹ For they all seek after their own interests, not those of Christ Jesus. ²² But you know of his proven worth, that he served with me in the furtherance of the gospel like a child *serv*ing his father. ²³ Therefore I hope to send him immediately, as soon as I see how things *go* with me; ²⁴ and I trust in the Lord that I myself also will be coming shortly. ²⁵

But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger and minister to my need; ²⁶ because he was longing for you all and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. ²⁷ For indeed he was sick to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, so that I would not have sorrow upon sorrow. ²⁸ Therefore I have sent him all the more eagerly so that when you see him again you may rejoice and I may be less concerned *about you*. ²⁹ Receive him then in the Lord with all joy, and hold men like him in high regard; ³⁰ because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was deficient in your service to me.

1. **2:19-24 : Timothy**
2. **2:35-30 : Epaphroditus**

Introductory Remarks |

1. What is the flow of thought?

i. Chapter 1

ii. Chapter 2:1-11

iii. Chapter 2:12-18

Section 1 : Philippians 2:19–22. Timothy

Q? What commendations & character traits does Paul highlight about Timothy?

1. V20 “Kindred spirit

a. “Who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare.”

2. V22 “*Proven Worth*”

a. “*He served with me in the furtherance of the gospel like a child serving his father.*”

3. Summary :

Section 2 : Philippians 2:25-30. Epaphroditus

1. Epaphroditus = charming. .

a. What are the 5 titles that summarize his role and relationship w/ Paul. V25

b. What does that highlight about Epaphroditus.

2. *Q? If Paul was intending to send Timothy eventually, why did Paul think that it was necessary to send Epaphroditus?*

Conclusion :

3. **V29-30 The encouragement :**

Q *How is the church supposed to receive Epaphroditus & men like him?*

Suggested Application & Discussion Questions

1. "Genuine concern for your welfare" What are some objectively identifiable characteristics of a *genuine concern for someone? In other words, what makes someone's care *genuine vs not genuine? What are some specific cases where you are in a role to take care of someone, but your own self-interest gets in the way?
2. We observed how servants of the Lord carry a concern for the people they minister to. How have their attitudes encouraged/ challenged you?
3. What does it mean to "honor" people like Epaphroditus and Timothy? Practically speaking is there anything to do other than acknowledge them?

Next Week's Passage | Lesson #8 Philippians 3:1-11 Knowing Christ Surpasses All.

Suggested Study questions : Please also come with your own questions observations.

1. *Who are we supposed to beware of? Judging by context of this passage (v1-11), who are they? V2-3.*
2. *How is "rejoicing in the Lord" a safeguard for us? V1*
3. *List & describe the items that are considered "confidence in the flesh." V4-6.*
4. *How does Paul describe the comparison between fleshly gain vs Christ in V7 & 8.*
5. *Review 1:18-21. What is revealed about Paul's main goals in this life? V8-10.*

Appendix 1 : Life of Timothy

<i>Event</i>
Timothy born (Acts 16:1; 2Tim. 1:5; 3:14-15)
Timothy, Lois and Eunice converted (Acts 14:8-22; 2Tim. 3:10-12) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <input type="checkbox"/> Paul's first missionary journey • <input type="checkbox"/> Sees Paul (nearly) stoned to death in Lystra • <input type="checkbox"/> Timothy Baptised (1Tim. 6:12) • <input type="checkbox"/> Judaisers preach a "different gospel" – Galatians written
Timothy joins Paul on 2nd Journey (Acts 16:1-3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <input type="checkbox"/> Well reported of by local ecclesias. • <input type="checkbox"/> Prophecies about him given (1Tim. 1:18; 4:14; 2Tim. 1:6) • <input type="checkbox"/> Circumcised by Paul
Mission to Thessalonica (Acts 17:5-15; 1Thess. 3:1-6) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <input type="checkbox"/> Timothy returns to centre of Macedonian persecution
Timothy with Paul in Corinth for 18 months (Acts 18:5, 18-22; 1Thess. 1:1; 2Thess. 1:1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <input type="checkbox"/> Returns from Macedonia with monetary gift (Acts 18:2-5; 2Cor. 11:8-9) • <input type="checkbox"/> Paul goes to Jerusalem. Timothy left behind?
Timothy goes to Corinth (Acts 19; 1Cor 1:1; 4:15-17; 16:10-11; 2Cor. 1:1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <input type="checkbox"/> Timothy with Paul in Ephesus for 3 years • <input type="checkbox"/> Sent to Corinth (and Macedonia too) (Acts 19:22)
Accompanies Paul to Macedonia and Greece, and Jerusalem (Acts 20:1-6; Rom. 16:21)
With Paul in Rome and Philippian Mission (Acts 28:16-31; Phil. 1:1; 2:19-23; Col. 1:1; Phm. 1:1)
Timothy's Ephesian Mission (1Tim. 1:3; 3:14-15; 4:12-16; 6:20-21) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <input type="checkbox"/> Paul released, and revisits Asia Minor, Macedonia, Crete (1Tim.1:3; Tit. 1:5)
Timothy goes to Rome, Paul executed (2Tim. 4:6, 9-21)
Timothy imprisoned and released (Heb. 13:23)
Stoned to death in Ephesus for opposing the worship of Dionysius (Church tradition)