



COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week of 8/30/26

Opener (10 minutes or less)

What is your favorite mode of travel?

DISCUSSION (50 minutes or less)

Begin your discussion time in prayer.

Scripture Reading: Philippians 2:19-30

Questions:

1. What does genuine concern for others' welfare look like in a church community? How can we grow in putting Christ's interests (and others' good) above our own?
 2. What kinds of experiences or relationships have most shaped your own character and usefulness in ministry? How does long-term, humble service develop the kind of trustworthiness Paul describes?
 3. Epaphroditus was willing to risk his life and nearly die; where do you see opportunities (or feel resistance) to take meaningful risks for the sake of Christ and His people today?
 4. Why is it important for a church to intentionally recognize and honor faithful, sacrificial servants? How might we do this better in our own community?
 5. Throughout this passage we see deep mutual care—Paul's desire to be cheered by news of the Philippians, Timothy's genuine concern, Epaphroditus's longing and distress for the church, and the relief of anxiety through reunion. How can we cultivate this kind of affectionate, practical care for one another so that our church becomes a place of mutual encouragement and shared joy?
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PERSONAL (30 minutes or less)

1. Oikos - the 8 to 15 people God supernaturally and strategically places in your life. Any oikos moments you would like to share..
2. What is going on in your life (note prayer requests and praise reports)
3. Pray

Philippians 2:19-30

¹⁹ I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. ²⁰ For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. ²¹ For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. ²² But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel. ²³ I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, ²⁴ and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also.

²⁵ I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, ²⁶ for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. ²⁷ Indeed he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. ²⁸ I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. ²⁹ So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and honor such men, ³⁰ for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.