
CHURCH IN COMMON

COMMON WORKERS—PHILIPPIANS 2:19-30

What?

Open in prayer. Pray that you can all be formed more and more in the likeness of Christ as you share in fellowship and conversation.

Icebreaker: Who has most shaped your vision of life? Or, who do you hold up as a 'model' or picture of a successful life?

Read Philippians 2:19-30.

What qualities do Timothy and Epaphroditus have?

How might someone "prove themselves" to be genuine in faith (v.22)?

What might be the connection between looking after the interests of others (2:4) and looking after the interests of Jesus (v.21)?

So what?

Paul seems to have many special relationships with co-workers for the gospel. Have you had a special relationship in work or life like that of Paul and Timothy? What was that like?

Look over your list of qualities that Timothy and Epaphroditus have (and consider any qualities of success that were mentioned in the sermon). How do the people you think of as "successful" match up with that criteria? Given the list you made, who *does* come to mind as a "successful" person—perhaps even someone that might not get much attention?

Now what?

Paul urges the Philippians to "honour" people like Epaphroditus (v. 29). How can you and/or our church do more to honour people who serve like Epaphroditus and Timothy?

Paul describes Epaphroditus as "brother, co-worker, and fellow soldier" (v.25). Do you have people in your life who you could describe that way? If so, who? How might you benefit from having a "crew" like that who you could meet with on a regular basis?

Thank God for partnerships in the gospel. Ask God to show you someone you should bring alongside with you, or whom you should come alongside, to work in partnership.