

Students - Cell Group Discipleship Study Guide

Phil. 2:17-30

Subject: Team Work Makes the Dream Work

Scripture: Phil. 2:17-30 - 17 *But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. 18 So you too should be glad and rejoice with me. 19 I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you. 20 I have no one else like him, who takes a genuine interest in your welfare. 21 For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. 22 But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. 23 I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see how things go with me. 24 And I am confident in the Lord that I myself will come soon. 25 But I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs. 26 For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill. 27 Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow. 28 Therefore I am all the more eager to send him, so that when you see him again you may be glad and I may have less anxiety. 29 Welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honor men like him, 30 because he almost died for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for the help you could not give me. (NIV)*

Scripture Content - As we come to our text, Paul give us some information about his ministry partners. Both provided invaluable service to Paul while he was in prison.

Objective: **Goal:** The goal of this lesson is to help us understand we need one another in order to do ministry. The church is a body. **Challenge:** Be able to put aside our petty differences and learn to work with one another. **Benefit:** When learn to work together, God will be able use us to do more for the church, community, and kingdom of God.

Message from the Passage to Rising Star and Questions

A. Paul's _____ (Vs. 17-18). 17 *But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. 18 So you too should be glad and rejoice with me.*

What kind of sacrifices are you making in order to serve the church and Christ?

B. Timothy's _____ (Vs. 19-24).

1. The _____ (V. 19). 19 *I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you.*

2. The _____ (Vs. 20-22). 20 *I have no one else like him, who takes a genuine interest in your welfare. 21 For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. 22 But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel.*

Paul said Timothy was selfless. In what ways can we show God and others we are selfless?

3. The _____ (Vs. 22-24). 23 I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see how things go with me. 24 And I am confident in the Lord that I myself will come soon.

What was hindering Timothy trip in coming to visit the church at Phillipian?

C. Epaphroditus' _____ (Vs. 25-30).

1. The _____ (V. 25). 25 But I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs.

2. The _____ (Vs. 26-27). 26 For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill. 27 Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow.

Do you believe God still heals today? Will you share your story with the group?

3. The _____ (Vs. 28-30). 28 Therefore I am all the more eager to send him, so that when you see him again you may be glad and I may have less anxiety. 29 Welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honor men like him, 30 because he almost died for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for the help you could not give me. (NIV)

Are you willing to serve even if you don't get any recognition or pay?

Application

1. Could you be faithful to the Lord even if you were in prison like Paul?
2. What things in your life are keeping you from being totally loyal to the Lord?
3. Are you the leader of a team or ministry? Are you part of a team? If not, what's keeping you from getting involved?

We are growing **Warmer** through **Fellowship**, **Deeper** through **Discipleship**, **Stronger** through **Worship**, **Broader** through **Ministry**, **Larger** through **Evangelism**, **Healthier** and **Wealthier** through **Stewardship**. (Acts 2:41-47)

Memory Verse: Phil. 2:5 - *Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.* (NKJV)