

WHITE HOT

Context

In this section of Philippians the Apostle Paul speaks very highly of two men that were dear to him. They impacted his life in a powerful way and were, for him, a source of strength in his difficult and life-threatening circumstances.

The qualities each of these men displayed gives us an inspiring example to follow as we seek to cultivate God honoring, and life giving relationships. As you read and study this text, ask yourself: What was it about Timothy and Epaphroditus that made their relationship so significant to Paul?

Questions for Study – Read Philippians 2:19-30

1. What statements did Paul make in these verses to communicate what these two guys meant to him personally? Why was their relationship so powerful to him?
2. How did Paul refer to Timothy (1 Timothy 1:2; 2 Timothy 1:2; 1 Corinthians 4:17; Romans 16:21; 1 Thess 3:2; Phil 1:1)? Who were Timothy's spiritual leaders as a child (2 Timothy 1:5; 3:15)?
3. What were the qualities that Timothy and Epaphroditus embodied? (There are at least 5 in this passage). What did these men do that made them worthy of honor in Paul's eyes?
4. Looking at the qualities you mentioned above...which ones come more easily to you? Which ones take focused intentionality?
5. Do you have anyone in your life that you'd say: "there is no one like him/her"? What is it about that person that makes them this for you?
6. To what length was Epaphroditus willing to go for the "work of Christ" (verses 29-30)? What kinds of risks or inconveniences are you willing to take for the "work of Christ"?
7. As you've studied this passage is there anyone in your life that the Lord has laid on your heart to be a Timothy or Epaphroditus type encouragement to?
8. How can you "honor" those in your life that embody the qualities of Paul, Timothy and Epaphroditus?
9. Spend some time praying for each other that you would embody qualities that would be a deep blessing to those in your life.