

Members' Handout - Philippians 2:19-2:30

Series: Philippians



1. How does Paul describe Timothy and Epaphroditus? What qualities and characteristics does Paul highlight?
2. Consider how Paul, Timothy, Epaphroditus and the Philippian church all sought "the interest of others" even at cost to themselves. How did they contribute to the mission of the gospel and care for each other? What did it cost them?
3. Look back at Phil 2:3-8. How did they each live out the example of Christ?
4. In this passage, Paul points us to examples of Christian maturity who are genuinely concerned for others in the church, willingly serving him and others in the church at cost to themselves. Consider both our leaders and other members of the church. What prevents us from being genuinely concerned about their welfare? What stops us from actively reaching out to care for or encourage them?
5. How have we often viewed or measured what it means to be spiritually mature? What are the kinds of Christian leaders or role models that we look up and what does it reveal about the way we view our Christian growth?
6. What are the gospel riches that might have compelled Paul, Timothy, Epaphroditus and Philippians to live in such a way? How might these same gospel riches compel us to be genuinely concerned for the welfare of others?
7. Think about our Christian leaders or other brothers and sisters who have been instrumental in shaping our Christian walk or have encouraged or contributed to our lives. How have they done so at a cost to themselves? Give thanks to God in prayer for these people.

Then, read through the list below of suggested ways to care for another and prayerfully consider how we can serve or encourage the people (both leaders and others in our church) that God has placed in our lives.

- Write a message of encouragement or affirmation
- Gift them something that they might find useful or would enjoy
- Provide practical help to ease their daily burdens (e.g. sending a meal, babysitting, cleaning their house etc.)

- Pray for them regularly and share with them how you have been praying for them, or ask them how you can be praying for them
- Give them a fist bump, hug, or warm pat on the back
- Sit and accompany them in their grief or struggle
- Spend unhurried time with them, listening to them or doing an activity with them that they might enjoy
- Read the Bible or a book with them
- Treat them to a meal or buy them coffee