Bible Study

Philippians: Living with Joy

Chapter 2

OUTLINE OF PHILIPPIANS

(Warren Wiersbe)

**DISCUSSION**

Key theme of Philippians is the joy of the Lord

Key verse of Philippians is Chapter 3:1

“In addition, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. To write to you again about this is no trouble for me and is a safeguard for you.”

Chapter 2 shows us that we can live our lives worthy of the gospel of Christ. We must have the attitude (mind) of Christ.

Christ’s example is one of selfless, sacrificial service to others.

He is the divine pattern, after which we should model our lives.

His divine power enables us to implement His divine pattern.

II. THE SUBMISSIVE MIND—chapter 2

A. The example of Christ—2:1–11

B. The example of Paul—2:12–18

**C. The example of Timothy—2:19–24**

D. The example of Epaphroditus—2:25–30

\*Do you know the story of the “Good Samaritan”? Is it possible to be a “Good Samaritan” today?

Remember that Christ’s example is one of selfless, sacrificial service. Timothy embodies this example.

**DISCOVERY**

II. THE SUBMISSIVE MIND—chapter 2

A. The example of Timothy—2:19-24

The Example of Timothy (19-24)

Who is Timothy?

* It is likely that Paul met Timothy on his first missionary journey. He became Paul’s protégé.

**1 Corinthians 4:17**

* Timothy’s mother and grandmother were faithful followers of Christ.

**2 Timothy 1:3-5**

* He was the son of a Jewish mother and Gentile father, yet Paul considered him a dearly beloved son in the faith.

**2 Timothy 1:2**

Timothy teaches us that the submissive mind does not automatically appear in the life of the believer. It must be **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and cultivated (within each of us).

\*Do you believe that being a selfless, sacrificing servant comes naturally? Why or why not?

It was not natural for Timothy to be a servant; but as he walked with the Lord and worked with Paul, he became the kind of servant that Paul could trust, and God could bless.

What are the contributing factors which led to this?

He had a servant’s **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. (19-21)

Timothy had a natural care and concern for people and their needs. With Paul’s concern for the Philippian church, he wanted to send someone to them who could adequately convey his concerns.

He sent Timothy because he possessed a servant’s mind. He knew that Timothy would only be interested in the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of God’s people.

How did this concern develop?

Timothy received servant’s **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. (v 22)

Paul knew that when he met Timothy, he could not immediately take him along on his missionary assignment.

He left Timothy behind in Derbe and Lystra, so that he could grow in spiritual matters in that fellowship.

\*Do you feel that it is important to have a time of spiritual growth before entering spiritual service for Christ? Why or why not?

Years later, Paul returned to find that Timothy had indeed matured in the faith.

**Acts 16:2**

Paul would later write to Timothy about the importance of new converts growing before inserting them into important places of ministry.

**1 Timothy 3:6-7**

Paul gives Timothy the time and opportunity to grow **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** in the faith before branching out in ministry.

He taught Timothy and mentored him before launching him in ministry.

This is the ministry philosophy and approach which we are adopting and implementing at St. Luke.

Timothy had a servant’s mind, a servant’s training, and…

He had a servant’s **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (vv 23-24)

Timothy knew the meaning of selfless, sacrificial service and God rewarded him for his faithfulness.

* He had the joy of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** others.
* He had the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of being Paul’s successor when he was executed.

2 Timothy 4:1-11

Timothy was not only Paul’s “son” and servant, but he would eventually become Paul’s substitute!

Taking on the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:5) is not the result of a weekly 45-minute sermon, or attending a weekend long seminar, or even a year’s service.

It must grow in us as we yield our lives to the Lord and seek to serve others.

**Matthew 25:21**

**DIRECTION**

Read Philippians 2

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