

## Philippians 2:12-30 Gospel Centred Friendships

Have you ever been in a sporting team? What coaching methods did the coach use to inspire the players?

Living a life worthy of the gospel of Jesus is a huge challenge. He has died, risen, called us to follow Him, and will return soon. So what does that mean for our lives as we seek to follow Him and live in a manner worthy of the gospel?

1. In the following passages, What sort of behaviour is living worthy of the gospel?

1:27-2:2

2:3-5

2:14

2:15-16

2. Growing in Christlikeness is a process that involves us and God. In 2:12-13, What are WE instructed to do?

What does GOD do in us?

Why do we need God to work in these parts of us?

Paul shares the examples of Timothy and Epaphroditus. Both known to the Philippians, and men who were working out their salvation, and living in a manner worthy of the gospel and showing the attitude of Christ in their lives.

*Read Philippians 2:12-30*

1. In verse 12 'Work out your salvation' implies a continuous, sustained, strenuous effort. Please note it doesn't say 'work at/ for your salvation,' as it is a free gift which we don't do any work towards (for further see

Eph 2:8-10). What do you think are the practical implications of this 'working out?' also see Colossians 3:1-10; Hebrews 12:1-3

2. What do we know about Timothy? Also See 1 Timothy 1:1-3; 2 Timothy 1:3-9
3. What do we know about Epaphroditus? Also see Philippians 4:14-18
4. Looking at verses 19-24, In what ways is Timothy like Christ as he is described in 2:3-11?
5. Looking at verses 25-30, In what ways is Epaphroditus like Christ as he is described in 2:3-11?
6. What parts of Timothy or Epaphroditus example of Christlikeness are a challenge to you and why?

Think:

7. Is there hope of growth in Christlikeness for a Christian? Why?
8. Think of an area you need to change your behaviour in order to be more Christlike and living in a manner worthy of the gospel, What practical steps can you take to 'work out your salvation'? How will you keep 'for it is God who works in you' in balance in the process?