



10-MINUTE BIBLE LESSON
Paul Gets Personal
Philippians 2:12-30

Before watching the video: What do you already know about Paul's letter to the Philippians? What verses or passages from it might you know already? What are you most curious about regarding this letter?

Now read the passage twice. Take time to notice every sentence and phrase. What stands out to you?

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

¹⁴Do all things without murmuring and arguing, ¹⁵so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world. ¹⁶It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you— ¹⁸and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me. ¹⁹I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I may be cheered by news of you. ²⁰I have no one like him who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. ²¹All of them are seeking their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. ²²But Timothy's worth you know, how like a son with a father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. ²³I hope therefore to send him as soon as I see how things go with me; ²⁴and I trust in the Lord that I will also come soon. ²⁵Still, I think it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus—my brother and co-worker and fellow soldier, your messenger and minister to my need; ²⁶for he has been longing for all of you, and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. ²⁷He was indeed so ill that he nearly died. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, so that I would not have one sorrow after another. ²⁸I am the more eager to send him, therefore, in order that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. ²⁹Welcome him then in the Lord with all joy, and honor such people, ³⁰because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for those services that you could not give me. – ***Philippians 2:12-30***

After watching the video: After saying a few more things about how critical it is to exhibit humility in community, Paul spends some time mentioning two people whom he is sending to the Philippians: Timothy and Epaphroditus. He takes time to reflect on his relationship with each of them, and with their relationship to the Philippian community. Timothy has a mentor/mentee relationship with Paul, and Epaphroditus was so ill at one point that the Philippians were very concerned about him.

Reflect on important relationships in your life, particularly in the church. When have you experienced a similar dynamic, either involving yourself or others, that reflect what Paul describes here?

Conclude in prayer. Thank God for blessings, ask forgiveness for wrongs done, request help for uncertainty. Close with “amen.”