

Pastor Scott Archer 06.12.2016*
Central Congregational Church
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"
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Praxis: Faith in the Real World
Philippians 2:19-30
Series: The Joy Factor

Central Passage

Philippians 2:19–22 (ESV) — 19 I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. 20 For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. 21 For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. 22 But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel.

Central Thoughts: Being a Christian is far more than believing in Jesus; it's about following his way in everyday life, allowing his priorities to become our priorities.

Working Out Our Salvation

- ❖ In response to God's gracious, saving work in us, we are called to "work out" the implications of our salvation in the context of community.

*Philippians 2:12–13 (ESV) — 12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, **work out** your own salvation with fear and trembling, **13** for it is God who **works in** you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.*

*Access today's sermon notes via your smartphone or tablet with the **YouVersion** Bible app from LifeChurch.tv. CCChurch Guest Wi-Fi password: central8360church.

Real Life Examples – Timothy and Epaphroditus (and Paul)

- ❖ They didn't just talk about believing in Jesus, they considered themselves his servants – even slaves.

Philippians 1:1 (ESV) — 1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus...

Philippians 2:19 (ESV) — 19 I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you.

- ❖ They lived what Jesus (and Paul) taught and modeled – they put the needs of their brothers and sisters in Christ before their own, even at the risk of their own wellbeing.

*Philippians 2:3–4 (ESV) — 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. **4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.***

*Philippians 2:20 (ESV) — 20 For I have no one like him [Timothy], **who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare.***

*Philippians 2:30 (ESV) — 30 for he [Epaphroditus] nearly died for the work of Christ, **risking his life** to complete what was lacking in your service to me.*

What About Us? What would happen if we really were...

- ❖ True brothers and sisters in Christ?
- ❖ Fellow workers striving together for the cause of Christ?
- ❖ Fellow soldiers willing to sacrifice for each other in Christ?

Philippians 2:25 (ESV) — 25 I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need,