



SERMON NOTES

Sunday, December 26, 2021 | Pastor Scott Boerckel

“Struggling Well: Two Good Examples”

Philippians 2:19-30

1. Struggling well requires selfless friends.
(Philippians 2:19-24)

2. Struggling well requires caring servants.
(Philippians 2:25-30)

Table Talk

- 1) Who are some of the friends that have helped you in your Christian journey? What common characteristics do they share?
- 2) How does Paul describe Timothy as selfless? What does “selfless” mean? What is the difference between Gospel loyalty and personal loyalty? Why are both needed in true Christian friendship? To whom are you such a friend? Who are your friends who are like this?
(vv. 19-24)
- 3) Who has been a caring servant to you? How have you been a caring servant to someone else? What comes to mind when you think of “caring servant”? How does Epaphroditus meet that definition?
- 4) There are five characteristics of Epaphroditus in verse 25. List them. Which one is most surprising to you? Which one is most expected?
- 5) What distressed Epaphroditus? (v. 26) How is what distressed him unusual for a person who nearly died? How would Paul have felt if Epaphroditus had died? (v. 27)
- 6) What does it mean to receive someone in the Lord with all joy?
(v. 29) What can you do to honor the persons that you identified in question #3 as caring servants?