

Philippians 2: 19-30

Welcome

September 22nd saw the official start of Autumn. With that in mind, what does Autumn smell like to you?!!



Worship

Invite members of the group to share a bible verse which has spoken to them or a prayer answered recently. Use this as a basis for a time of praise and thanksgiving.



Word

1. Read Philippians 2:19-30
2. Take some time to consider how Timothy and Epaphroditus are living examples of what Paul has been talking about so far in his letter? For example which particular verses from Philippians Chapters 1 and 2 would you say apply to what Paul tells us about them in this passage?
3. How do you think most people would define success?
4. Paul's letter to Christians in Philippi turn notions of success and failure on their head—the way up is the way down (Phil 2:6-11)



Success in Gospel terms requires Compassion, Consistency, Collaboration, Commitment and Courage.

How do you see these 5 elements played out a) in the life of Jesus b) the life of Paul and c) in the life of Timothy and Epaphroditus?

5. 'God does not write us off as quickly as we write off ourselves' - the 5 'C's' above are likely to show that you are more of a success than you think you are!

Do you find this a helpful way to think about life and faith—as a way of living as a follower of Jesus?

NB notice how the 5 'C's' are primarily about attitude rather than achievement

Witness

In this passage Paul reveals a deep thankfulness for Timothy and Epaphroditus. For the way they have cared for and supported him and his ministry. Spend time this week reflecting upon the people that God has 'sent' to support and serve you as you live out your faith.

Thank God for them and consider who God is calling you/has called you to care and support in their faith journey

