

# Philippians

A GUIDE TO JOY

## Philippians 2:16-30 – Humility In Real Life

July 5, 2020

- Humility is considering other more significant than ourselves.
- Humility is not just looking out for our interests but also for the interests of others.

### 1. Paul — Humility is gladly sacrificing my life for the spiritual good of others.

#### A. Humility gives me genuine concern for the day others will stand before Christ.

*...holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Philippians 2:16 (ESV)*

*For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? 1 Thessalonians 2:19 (ESV)*

#### B. Humility considers it a privilege to spend my life for the spiritual good of others.

*Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me. Philippians 2:17–18 (ESV)*

## 2. Timothy — Humility is honoring Jesus and serving people before caring about myself.

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

*I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me,... Philippians 2:23 (ESV)*

### A. Humility is modeling my life after someone that is spiritually mature instead of my peers.

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

*Like — one-souled, or one-mind.*

*I urge you, then, be imitators of me. That is why I sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, to remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach them everywhere in every church. 1 Corinthians 4:16–17 (ESV)*

### B. Humility is genuine concern for the needs of others.

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

### C. Humility is being more focused on what pleases Jesus, then what pleases me.

*For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. Philippians 2:21 (ESV)*

**D. Humility considers it a privilege to serve others in gospel work, even when it is hard work.**

*But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel. Philippians 2:22 (ESV)*

**E. Humility is giving up life's pleasures for the gospel.**

*I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also. Philippians 2:23–24 (ESV)*

**F. While Timothy was humble, he was still human.**

*Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work. So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. 2 Timothy 2:21–22 (ESV)*

### **3. Epaphroditus — Humility is willing to risk my life for the sake of the gospel and the needs of others.**

**A. Humility is honoring ordinary Christians around us.**

*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,... Philippians 2:25 (ESV)*

Minister (leitourgeon) — A benefactor who gives sacrificially for the good of others around him/her.

**B. Humility cares about the concerns of others, not just ourselves.**

*...for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. Philippians 2:26 (ESV)*

*Indeed he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. Philippians 2:27 (ESV)*

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

**C. Humility does what is best for others, not what is best for me.**

I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. Philippians 2:28 (ESV)

**D. Humility is risking my life for the sake of the gospel and the needs of people.**

So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and honor such men, for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me. Philippians 2:29–30 (ESV)

## Conclusion

**A. Paul — Humility is gladly sacrificing my life for the spiritual good of others.**

**B. Timothy — Humility is honoring Jesus and serving people before caring about myself.**

**C. Epaphroditus — Humility is risking my life for the sake of the gospel and the needs of people.**

## Life Group Questions

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1. What stuck out to you in the message? What is one thing you will apply?
2. Read Philippians 2:16-30. Which of the three real life examples of humility (Paul, Timothy, or Epaphroditus) connected most with your life? What did you learn about their life you did not know?
3. Who are some ordinary people in your life that modeled humility and working out their salvation with a gratitude that you try to follow?
4. What do these verses teach us about the importance of humility and putting the interests of Jesus and other people in front of our own? Matthew 16:24, Luke 14:26, Luke 9:57-62, 1 Corinthians 10:24
5. One way humility showed itself in the life of Epaphroditus was the genuine concern he had about the emotions of other people. What do these verses teach us about the way humility helps us care about the feelings of others? Romans 12:15, 1 Corinthians 12:26, Galatians 6:2
6. Epaphroditus showed humility by risking his life, and continuing his travel to Rome, even though he was deathly ill. He knew Paul needed the Philippian's financial gift and he was willing to risk his life to get the funds to Paul. What do these verses teach us about what we should be willing to risk for the sake of the gospel and for others? Romans 16:3-4, Revelation 12:11, Acts 20:24, 1 Corinthians 9:1-14 — note the rights Paul gives up for the sake of the gospel.