



**PHILIPPIANS:  
ENJOYING LIFE**  
An interactive Bible study for  
individuals, families,  
and LIFE Groups

~ Week Nine ~  
"The Joyful Servant"  
Philippians 2:19-30

**SERMON NOTES**

*Record your insights and observations from this week's sermon:*

Thanks for using UPC's weekly Bible study guide. We pray that this tool will help you RECALL what you heard in the Sunday sermon, REFLECT on the Scriptures more fully, and RESPOND with love to God, church, and community. If you miss a sermon, or would like to review it, visit our website: [www.upc-orlando.com](http://www.upc-orlando.com).

**WARM UP**

Share about a time when someone served you in a practical way. What was your need and how did that person meet it?

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**RECALL THE SUNDAY SERMON**

**Read Philippians 2:19-30**

a) Were you convicted about anything particular during this week's sermon? What have you done so far this week to respond that conviction?

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b) From the sermon, and from other background knowledge you may have, what do you know about Timothy (verses 19-24)? Think of both his assets and liabilities.

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c) In spite of his limitations, what did Timothy do to serve others?

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d) Epaphroditus (verses 25-30) is not as well known as Timothy. How did Epaphroditus make sacrifices for the benefit of others?

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## REFLECT A BIT FURTHER

a) You might remember that in the 1976 movie *Rocky*, Rocky is in love. Adrian, the woman he loves, has a brother, and this brother asks Rocky, "Why do you love her?" Rocky's reply is classic: "Gaps. We fill each other's gaps." Drawing from this week's Scripture passage, what gaps did Timothy and Epaphroditus fill? (Answer this from the viewpoint of both Paul and the Philippians.)

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b) What would you say are the essential qualifications of a "gap-filler"?

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c) According to Romans 12:7, serving is a spiritual gift that the Holy Spirit gives to some, but not all, Christians. How might someone whose gifts lie in other areas still faithfully serve others?

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d) Spend a few minutes getting "inside" Timothy's heart. Read 1 Timothy 4:12, 5:23, and 2 Timothy 1:7. What do you suppose enabled Timothy to excel as a servant without seeking his identity and security from serving others? Have you known people (maybe yourself!) who serve in order to get strokes? How can this be avoided?

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## RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

a) What "gaps" do you perceive exist at UPC?

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b) Keeping in mind that YOU are gifted and called to be one of the ministers of our church, what could you do to help fill the gaps you have identified?

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c) Write out an action plan for yourself to get busy being a "gap-filler." Share your plan with someone and ask him or her to hold you accountable.

## PRAY FOR UPC

Please pray this week for:

- **Vacation Bible School** June 11-16 – Pray that God will raise up all the people needed to make the staff complete.
- **The Women's Retreat** on May 19-21 - Pray that God will create a climate of trust, relaxation, and friendship among the women who attend.
- Our high school, college, and seminary **graduates**, as they make plans for the summer and beyond.
- Our **high school youth ministry** – Pray that the team of students going on the London mission trip will serve one another in love.
- **Dave & Sue Imbrock**, working with Global Hope Network in France – Pray for their humanitarian aid efforts and for Dave's mother Pam, a resident of the LifeCare Center, as her health is in decline.
- **Lou Stephens** – recovering from brain surgery on Friday.