The Path to Joy

# Play on God's Team

## Phil 2:19-30

* What might be the connections between the grand centerpiece of Philippians (2:5-11) and the very personal conversation in 2:19-30?
* Paul works closely with Timothy for years. Why is it important to have someone with whom we can connect on a personal level?
* Epaphroditus was troubled because the people in his home church heard that he was sick and he didn’t want them worrying (2:26). Paul wanted to send Timothy for his own encouragement (2:19). How has instant communication (and everything) made our situations easier but stopped some of our character development?
* Epaphroditus had been close to death—Paul mentions it twice—in his sickness. List some of the ways modern medicine had changed our expectations of life and death. How has this affected our character development? What can we learn from brothers & sisters in places with shorter average lifespans?
* Why do we need some ‘road warriors’ like Paul and Timothy but mostly local servants doing what is necessary through a home church (2:25, 29-30)?
* Read Paul’s writing at Romans 12:9-16. Why is our network of personal connection so central to following Jesus?