

Together ... In Christ *Philippians 2*

Discussion Points June 20, 2021

Read/Reflect

- 1. Read Philippians 2.
- 2. In this chapter, who would you first want to meet and get to know?
 - D Paul under house arrest, challenging you to view your current circumstances with joy?
 - □ Timothy, attached to Paul, but with the prospect of being sent to do ministry on his own?
 - □ Epaphroditus, just recovered from a near fatal illness, heading back to the church community that had sent him to bring the church's support gift to Paul?

Explore

- 3. When have you felt "together in Christ" with others, even when you were apart? When have you been overjoyed by the Christ-like attitude of others?
- 4. In what ways do we easily confuse the church with being a pleasant "social club" for ourselves? How can we counter that tendency so that we increase the sense of being "in Christ?"
- 5. If "working out your salvation with fear and trembling" (vs.12) is about learning to live in the salvation that Christ has accomplished for you, what instances in your life might be examples?
- 6. When has joining in on the mission of the church produced a synergy for your faith (vs.16)? When has it helped you to endure (vs.17a)? When has it produced joy (vs.18)?
- 7. Do you think there is a comparison between Paul giving up being together with Timothy and Epaphroditus, and our circumstance of having to give up being together through the pandemic? Where does the comparison fail? Where does the comparison help you to take up your journey of faith?

Pray

- ✤ For an imagination that clearly depicts the attitude of Jesus Christ (vs.5), and for the Holy Spirit to empower you to live out from that.
- For reminders to rejoice in the togetherness we have in Christ, even if circumstances are not in our favour.

