

Reverend Dr. Major A Stewart





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November 28, 2023

Serving Others — Philippians 2

Power. Glory. Success. Throughout human history these have captured the hearts of men and women. In the midst of a society which measures worth by position and wealth, it is no wonder that Christians have struggled to stand for the values of the kingdom of God: humility, self-denial, gentleness, love. In the eyes of the world these are often signs of weakness rather than strength.





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Personal Reflection:

- 1. What images come to your mind when you hear the word servant? Is it positive or negative?
- 2. In what ways do you struggle with seeing yourself as a servant?





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In stark contrast to the values of our day, Jesus came not to be served but to serve. He calls us to follow in his steps. Read Philippians 2.

- 1. What themes connect Jesus, Timothy and Epaphroditus in this passage?
- 2. How is verse 1 an incentive to obey Paul's commands in verse 2?
- 3. How do Paul's commands in verses 3—4 go against our natural tendencies?



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How do they go against the spirit of our society?

- 4. How is Christ the supreme example of the humility and servanthood described in verses 3—4?
- 5. What did it cost him to be a servant (vv. 6—8)?
- 6. In verses 12—18 Paul exhorts the Philippians to live godly lives. In what way is he a model of servanthood for them?
- 7. How does Paul contrast Timothy with others (vv. 20—21)?
- 8. If Timothy were alive today, how might his "genuine interest" in the church's welfare be manifested in practical ways?





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9. How has Epaphroditus been a servant to Paul and the Philippians (vv. 25–30)?

10. Jesus said, "The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve" (Mark 10:45). Paul, Timothy

and Epaphroditus demonstrated the same kind of lifestyle. What are some ways you might follow their

example more fully today or this week?





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HOW CAN YOU SERVE OTHERS JOYFULLY
WITHOUT GETTING "BURNED OUT"?
PRAY THAT GOD WOULD GIVE YOU GRACE TO
SERVE IN PRACTICAL WAYS IN THE COMING
WEEK.

NOW OR LATER
READ JOHN 13:1–17. WHAT ADDITIONAL INSIGHTS
DOES THIS PASSAGE PROVIDE?

