

TITLE: The Gospel Perspective on Ministry
TEXT: Philippians 2:19–30
THEME: Ministry
PROP.: We must understand the value of ministry.

[\[Word Version\]](#)
June 5, 2016

- I. The Communication
- II. The Cooperation in ministry
 - A. The People
 - 1. An Apostle
 - 2. An Assistant
 - 3. An Anonymous Saint
 - B. The Purpose
 - C. The Practice
- III. The Character of the Servants
 - A. The Gifted Service of Timothy (2:19-24)
 - 1. Focused on Others
 - 2. Faithful
 - B. The Gracious Servanthood of Epaphroditus (2:25-30)
 - 1. Faithful
 - 2. Focused on others

QUESTIONS:

1. What did you hear?
2. God designed the church to be made up of different people with differing gifts and abilities (1 Cor 12:12-31). Why do you think He did that?
3. How can a person's possession of a certain ability connect them to the church?
4. How can a person's need of a certain ability connect them to the church?

5. **Epaphroditus' service was different than Timothy's, and some wouldn't even consider it "spiritual," yet Paul equates both as "service for Christ." What are some areas of ministry around the church that we need to think about differently? When done to others and for Christ, is there really such thing as "second class ministry?"**
6. **One of the most important things in ministry for Paul was equipping others to take his place. What are some ways that we should be doing this as a Church?**
7. **All three of the men in this passage shared deep personal emotions for each other and for the Philippian believers. This became the "glue" for their ministry. How can we develop these kinds of relationships?**
8. **How important is choosing to serve each other with our gifts in developing real relationships? Why?**
9. **How important is serving together for a cause that is greater than we are in developing real relationships? How do you think this works?**
10. **Obviously, communication was something that Paul considered to be essential. He didn't want the Philippians to merely guess about how he was doing nor did he want to guess about them. He went to great lengths to make sure that they knew. How well do you do in truly communicating the needs of your heart/life to other believers? How well do you do in learning of their needs?**
11. **Epaphroditus' life was marked by service. At it's essence, ministry is simply learning the need of another and endeavoring to meet it. What are some ways that we can do a better a job of learning of people's needs? What are some ways that we can become more practical in meeting people's needs?**