

## A Demonstration of Discipleship: Part 1

Philippians 2:19-24

**Big Idea:** Timothy serves as a demonstration of God’s work in sanctification. Timothy had a genuine love for the church that expressed itself in dying to self and giving himself in service to his brothers and sisters in Christ.

In these verses, Paul promised to send Timothy and Epaphroditus... These two stand as further examples of the mind of Christ... while Paul thought of the mind of Christ he was reminded of two who represented that character and had especially been selfless in their service to him.<sup>1</sup>

3 Ways Timothy Demonstrates Discipleship;

### 1. His \_\_\_\_\_ for the Church.

**Phil. 2:19** I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. **20** For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare.

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*As Jesus lives his life through us and we identify with his Spirit in us we too, love his church.*

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**1 John 3:11 (ESV)** — **11** For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

**1 John 3:16–18 (ESV)** — **16** By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. **17** But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? **18** Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

**Just like a parent assumes responsibility for the well-being of their child so to we ought to assume a certain level of responsibility to those in the church.**

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<sup>1</sup> Melick, R. R. (1991). *Philippians, Colossians, Philemon* (Vol. 32, p. 116). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

**1 Corinthians 4:14–17 (ESV)** — **14** I do not write these things to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. **15** For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. **16** I urge you, then, be imitators of me. **17** That is why I sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, to remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach them everywhere in every church.

### 2. His \_\_\_\_\_ Spirit

**Phi. 2:21** For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. **22** But you know Timothy’s proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel.

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**Matthew 16:24–25 (ESV)** — **24** Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him *deny himself and take up his cross and follow me*. **25** For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

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“When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die, it may be a death like that of the first disciples who had to leave home and work to follow him, or it may be a death like Luther’s, who had to leave the monastery and go out into the world. But it is the same death every time—death in Jesus Christ, the death of the old man and his call. Jesus’ summons to the rich young man was calling him to die, because only the man who is dead to his own will can follow Christ. In fact every command of Jesus is a call to die, with all our affections and lusts. But we do not want to die, and therefore Jesus Christ and his call are necessarily our death as well as our life. The call to discipleship, the baptism in the name of Jesus Christ means both death and life.” –**D. Bonhoffer; The Cost of Discipleship**

### 3. His \_\_\_\_\_ Character

**Phil 2:22** But you know Timothy’s proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel.

#### Questions to Consider

In what ways did Timothy’s life demonstrate God’s work in him?

Have you taken responsibility for another’s progress and joy in Christ?

Consider this past week, have you had any opportunities to die to self and demonstrate Christ’s love to someone else? What did this process look like for you?

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