

The Joyful Journey  
PART 15  
The Joy of Faithful Friends  
Philippians 2:19-30

Introduction:

Why are texts like these in the Bible?

*A Personal Glimpse into the Lives of Paul & the Philippians  
Friends for Life...*

I. The Making of a Faithful Friend

A. Timothy

*His Mother & Grandmother  
His Father in the Faith*

B. Epaphroditus

*What had to be true for this text to be true...*

II. The Heart of a Faithful Friend

A. Like-minded **v. 20 & v. 25**

B. Like Christ & Loyal to Him **vv. 20-21 & vv. 29-30**

C. Like Gold - *Proven through Difficulty* **vv. 22 & vv. 26-30**

D. Like Family **v. 22 & v. 25**

III. The Generosity of Sharing Faithful Friends

*Their Lavish Gifts of Love to Each Other*

## Philippians 2:19-30

19 But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your state. 20 For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state. 21 For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus. 22 But you know his proven character, that as a son with his father he served with me in the gospel. 23 Therefore I hope to send him at once, as soon as I see how it goes with me. 24 But I trust in the Lord that I myself shall also come shortly.

25 Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need; 26 since he was longing for you all, and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. 27 For indeed he was sick almost unto death; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. 28 Therefore I sent him the more eagerly, that when you see him again you may rejoice, and I may be less sorrowful. 29 Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem; 30 because for the work of Christ he came close to death, not regarding his life, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.

### For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth,  
For the glory of the skies;  
For the love which from our birth,  
Over and around us lies;  
Lord of all, to Thee we raise  
This, our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour,  
Of the day and of the night;  
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r,  
Sun and moon, and stars of light;  
Lord of all, to Thee we raise  
This, our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love,  
Brother, sister, parent, child;  
Friends on Earth and friends above,  
For all gentle thoughts and mild;  
Lord of all, to Thee we raise  
This, our hymn of grateful praise.

For Thyself, best Gift Divine,  
To the world so freely given,  
For that greatest grace of Thine,  
Hope on earth and joy in heaven.  
Lord of all, to Thee we raise  
This, our hymn of grateful praise.