DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.

PHILIPPIANS
STUDY #5: Paul's Colleagues
Philippians 2:19-30

BIBLE STUDY TOOLS ~ BIBLE STUDY METHODS ~

LOOK FOR ANSWERS TO BASIC QUESTIONS

- **Investigative Questions** help us complete the "observation" aspect of Bible study (what it says). Acting as an "investigative reporter" we can gain insight by asking the basic questions:
  - **Who**? Who are the characters? Are their names significant? Do pronouns change?
  - **What**? What are the context, cultural issues. What is basic truth is shown?
  - **Why**? Is there a purpose statement? Why is this information here?
  - **When**?   When does this occur? Are there time-oriented words?
  - **Where**?   Where does this take place? What cities or countries are mentioned?

INTRODUCTION
- How do we talk about our colleagues when they aren't around? How do they talk about you?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Read Acts 16:1-5; Philippians 2:19-24
1. Who are Timothy & Paul?
2. What brought them together?
3. Why is Paul writing about Timothy?
4. When does Paul plan to send Timothy? When does Paul expect to be released?
5. Where is Paul when he writes this letter? Where is he writing "to"?
6. How does Paul feel about Timothy? How does Timothy illustrate Phil 2:1-4?

Read Philippians 2:25-30
7. Who is Epaphroditus?
8. What makes Epaphroditus' different than Timothy?
9. Why is Paul sending him back?
10. When is he going back (in comparison to Timothy's return)?
11. Where is Paul sending him?
12. How does Paul feel about Epaphroditus? How does Epaphroditus illustrate Phil 2:1-4?

APPLICATION
- How can your speech become more seasoned with praise and genuine compliments?
- What needs to change about the way you talk about your colleagues? The people in your church?
- How can you develop deeper relationships so that you can have friends like Paul?

For next week read the book of Philippians (10-15 minutes) again. We'll focus on Paul's mission statement as shown in Philippians 3:1-21.