



Holy Trinity
Combe Down



St Andrew's
Community Church

Homegroup Material Sunday 4th February, Philippians 2:12-30

Pray and read the passage together.

1. Tim spent most of his sermon on vv.12-13! How do you understand the tension expressed by Paul in verses 12 and 13?
2. If self-justification (i.e. thinking we need to earn our salvation) is one error, and living entirely as we want (i.e. ignoring God's ways) is the other, which one do you find yourself most in danger of?
3. How does Paul's exhortation in v.12-13 help you?
4. The 'person spec' for being a follower of Jesus is outlined in verses 14-16. Take time to wrestle with what this will look like in the nitty gritty of your lives.

You might want to pause here and pray for each other to grow in 'Christ-likeness' at this point.

5. What are the different contexts you (both individually and corporately) are seeking to 'shine like stars' in? How is that going? What could you change? What could you pray for? [vv.17-18 suggest this is costly but ultimately joyful work]
6. Verses 19-30 give us two examples of Christians who are 'shiny'. What can you see in Timothy that you would love to see more of in our church/your life?
7. Epaphroditus is described as 'brother, co-worker, fellow soldier'. We are told to 'honour people like him' (v.29). Are there examples in your life/church of people who display similar 'Christ-likeness'? What opportunities are there to honour people like that in our church life? How could/should we do it?
8. There is a danger a passage like this can cause us to think 'must try harder' (as if our efforts were all that mattered/counted). Take time as you finish to share encouragements you have found in this passage or elsewhere in Philippians (or even the rest of the bible!). Close by fixing your hearts on Jesus, perhaps in prayer and/or worship.

Rev. Tim Lewis