

GOD WORKS THRU PEOPLE—THRU YOU!

January 23, 2022 Philippians 2:19-30 by Bob Branch
Joy Infusion, part 12

BIG IDEA: God's kingdom comes thru people. *Are you available? Are you the kind of person God would send? How can you be part of it?*

¹⁹ Now I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon so that I too may be encouraged by news about you. ²⁰ For I have no one else like-minded who will genuinely care about your welfare; ²¹ all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. ²² But you know his proven character, because he has served with me in the gospel ministry like a son with a father. ²³ Therefore, I hope to send him as soon as I see how things go with me. ²⁴ I am confident in the Lord that I myself will also come soon.

1. God uses people who _____ about the welfare of others.

"in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others." **Philippians 2:3-4**

"Am I my brother's keeper" **Genesis 4:9**

"the whole law is fulfilled in one statement: Love your neighbor as yourself." **Galatians 5:14** CSB (Acts 4:32-35)

Who is in your life right now? What do they need?

2. God uses people with _____ and to test and prove character.

"Even in times of trouble we have a joyful confidence, knowing that our pressures will develop in us patient endurance. And patient endurance will refine our character, and proven character leads us back to hope."

Romans 5:3-4 TPT

²⁵ But I considered it necessary to send you Epaphroditus — my brother, coworker, and fellow soldier, as well as your messenger and minister to my need—²⁶ since he has been longing for all of you and was distressed because you heard that he was sick. ²⁷ Indeed, he was so sick that he nearly died. However, God had mercy on him, and not only on him but also on me, so that I would not have sorrow upon sorrow. ²⁸ For this reason, I am very eager to send him so that you may rejoice again when you see him and I may be less anxious. ²⁹ Therefore, welcome him in the Lord with great joy and hold people like him in honor, ³⁰ because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up what was lacking in your ministry to me. **Philippians 2:19-30**

3. God uses people who _____ when it's difficult.

"don't try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work so you become mature and well-developed, not deficient in any way." **James 1:4** TM

4. God uses people who are _____ toward others. (2 Cor. 6:11, 13)

Q: Can you receive people as God's resource?

IN PRACTICE:

_____ about what people around you need, and ask God to help you see and meet it.

_____ promptly, generously & creatively as you see needs