

PHILIPPIANS

Finding Joy in Every Season



FOR DISCUSSION

1. Who in your life shows a deep and loving care for you?
2. What kind of person do you want to be when you grow up? What do you want to do? Who do you want to be like?

DIG DEEPER

Do you remember where Paul is writing the Philippians from? He is writing from under house arrest in Rome, chained to a Roman guard. The good news is that he is able to have visitors and Paul has been **very thankful** that two particular men have been with him while He is in Rome.

Read Philippians 2:19 in the International Children's Bible Translation below.

I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon. I will be happy to learn how you are.

1. Who is the first man that has been a help to Paul? Why does Paul want to send him to the church at Philippi?
2. Look back at Acts 16:1-5 for background on how Timothy came to join Paul and Silas on their 2nd missionary journey. What do you learn about Timothy in this passage?
3. Read 2 Timothy 1:5. What is unique about Timothy's childhood?

Read & Reflect on Philippians 2:20-21

²⁰ *I have no other person like Timothy. He truly cares for you.* ²¹ *Other people are interested only in their own lives. They are not interested in the work of Christ Jesus.*

4. What high praise does Paul give Timothy? How is Timothy an example to us of Philippians 2:3-4?
5. Do you know people like this? How can you be more like Timothy?

Read & Reflect on Philippians 2:22-24

²² *You know the kind of person Timothy is. You know that he has served with me in telling the Good News, as a son serves his father.* ²³ *I plan to send him to you quickly when I know what will happen to me.* ²⁴ *I am sure that the Lord will help me to come to you soon.*

6. Paul had such a special relationship with this young man. Timothy learned the OT Scriptures at a young age, but he came to know and serve Christ through Paul's preaching which is why Paul views Timothy in verse 22 as a spiritual _____ and himself as a _____ serving together in the gospel (see also 1 Tim 1:2 & 2 Tim 1:2).

After Paul was released from house arrest in Rome, Timothy traveled with him to visit the churches that had been planted. They went to Ephesus and were saddened to find error in the church concerning Jesus' divinity and humanity. Paul left Timothy to look after the Ephesian church, install leaders, and correct error while he went to visit the churches in Macedonia (Philippians). Paul wrote Timothy (the letter of 1 Timothy) while Timothy was pastoring this Ephesian church. Paul's last letter before his death was to Timothy (the letter of 2nd Timothy) written from a Roman dungeon before his execution. Read 2 Timothy 1:4 & 4:9. What was Paul's request in his last days of life?

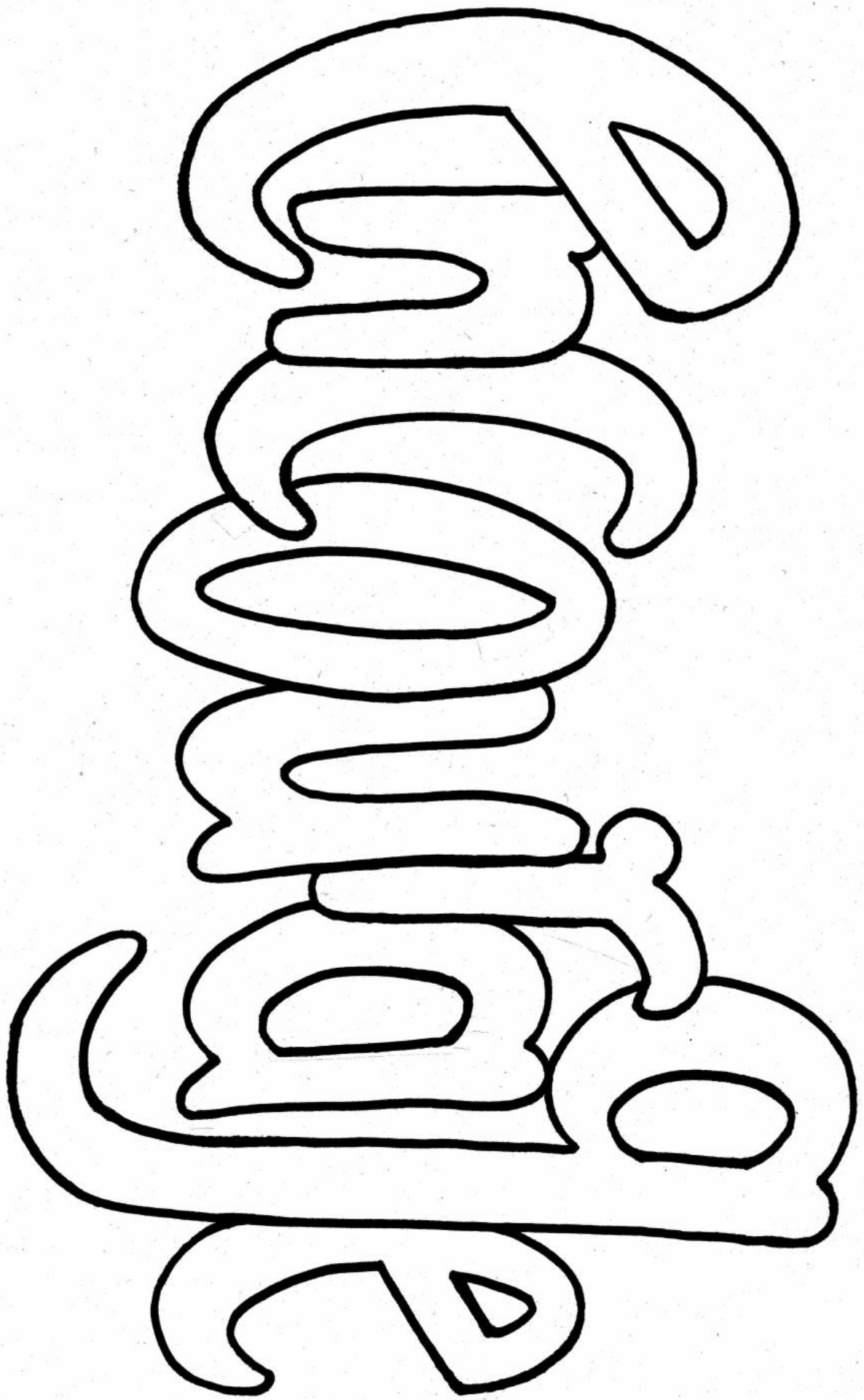
Now we get to learn about the second man that has been a blessing to Paul while he is under house arrest in Rome. Let's read about him in Philippians 2:25-30. Underline words, phrases or verses that stand out to you.

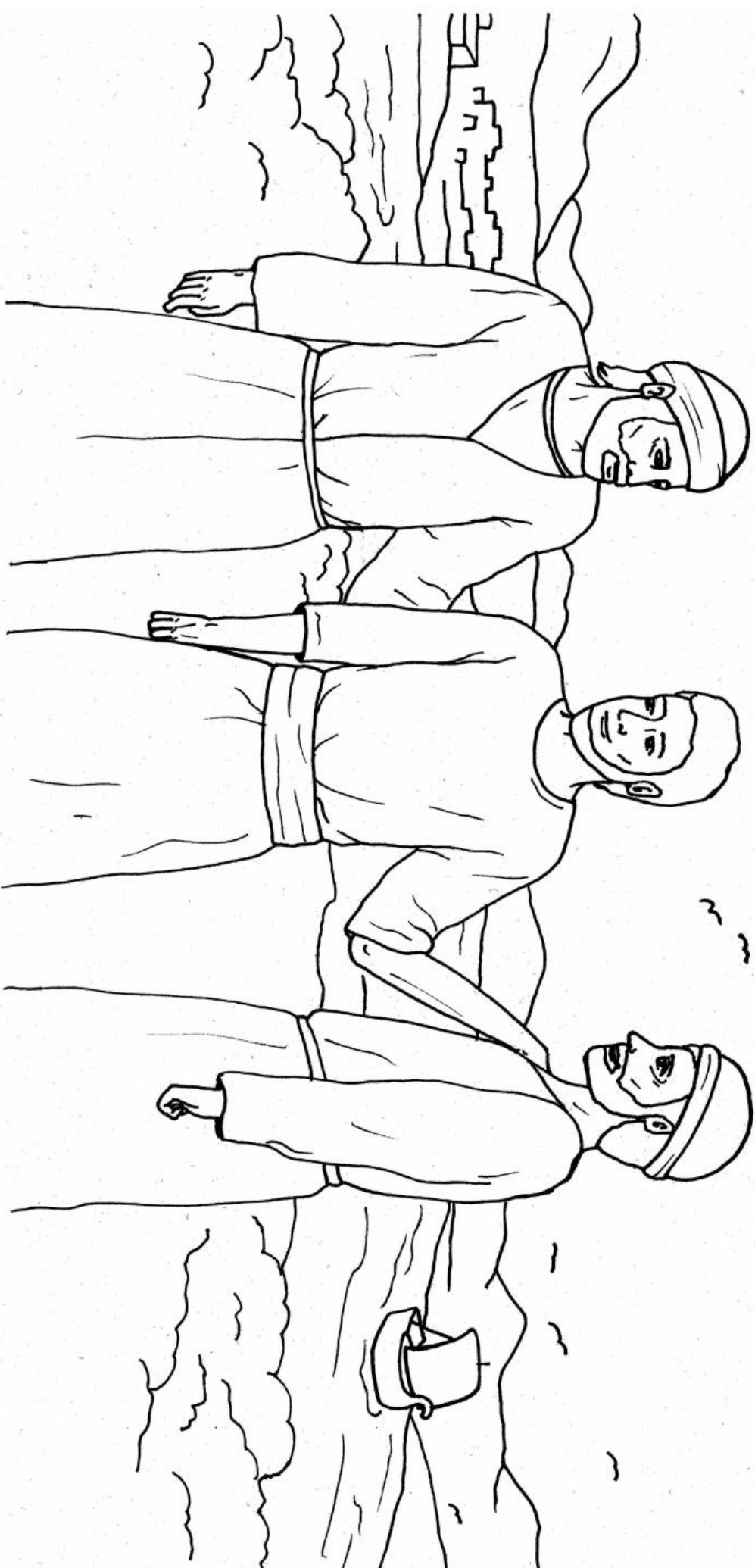
25 Epaphroditus is my brother in Christ. He works and serves with me in the army of Christ. When I needed help, you sent him to me. I think now that I must send him back to you 26 because he wants very much to see all of you. He is worried because you heard that he was sick. 27 Yes, he was sick, and nearly died. But God helped him and me too, so that I would not have more sadness. 28 So I want very much to send him to you. When you see him, you can be happy. And I can stop worrying about you. 29 Welcome him in the Lord with much joy. Give honor to people like Epaphroditus. 30 He should be honored because he almost died for the work of Christ. He put his life in danger so that he could help me. This was help that you could not give me.

7. Who is the man that was sent from the Philippians church to care for Paul?
8. What happened to him on his journey from Philippi to Rome?
9. What stands out to you about Epaphroditus' life?

PRAYER POINT

- Pray that you would have a genuine interest in others and live for God's Kingdom.
- Ask the Lord to help you have a heart for the things that Christ cares about.
- Thank the Lord for the men & women that serve the Lord faithfully in your local church.





PAUL, TIMOTHY, EPAPHRODITUS

Philippians Word Search

Z V O T Q K Y M H F H X O P V F B Y L B F V P X G A E K I I
K V K A R P Z F K F R E J O I C E O G K C J X Q X U X K X T
N K T K Q X D L O B L E D U L W P L H S E R V A N T G F X F
L D F N Q H L W Y E R R E T P P F C B I O R X G D F C Q F K
L R O T G A X L G Q Q U V J S A E J E S U S Z N V W C S F N
W V O L H F N J W Z J N I U T Q W B M R O U A C C U L T E S
B U G R A T I T U D E F Q N Y N G O J Z V T O U M T C A A S
B X M D K X I Q A M Q C I F F I F D U G C M M N R G F D R K
E C T N R N J B O A D A R A G S A L V A T I O N C G H M H V
I L E S M J A V Q L V J J W E J S O G O L M Q N L C R W U M
Y S M K U X D C F I N V X A N O H I G Q L N F I K V O A R E
S R U L B V G Y R J C N C R F M H R E A H Q M P X N U D B D
J O W Q F V Y X V J Z Z Z V U I K P A U L F E P O Z Y R F Q
T K U L G R C F O B E Y C A D N C I M B D Z R H M I K Y Z I
E J V F U Z G M Q H I Q A S B I K H C U P I C H N D K J R J
W Y U O O U G R M J O M C O I S S W B Q J S Y E N S Q M D B
N C A T F B N P W B K J U Q E T F B Y T F F X P L X M P M L
N P E K R U A Q Q I F J F X B R K I X X R U H A S K H L B A
U L L F A R X P C L G Q Z P O Y J A N Z T I A P O T E I D M
E V J W R D S B H U Q T U P H W Z M D K D F R H Y E A G Y E
L Q P U R P O S E V D Z F J S D I E I H K P A R G H A P A L
B I T R N K G B Y W M P J K M Z M E N O E H D O L H Y V A E
Z G I B U F R L C U O D W H Y Y Y Q N G Y I I D Q H C X O S
F O M E W P C W Z V D N S C O K T L O R B L K I S A K R C S
B S O U O M A U H N K R A O V A E S C E A I S T L A Q K I S
Q H T L S S J U P M Q D U J W M A A E I S P L U Z C I R R R
K I H O F U X O O Z N O E E J J O X N D D P D S S T A R S J
E N Y L U N S U Y S U N H Q A R C Z T G X I A R C E V F T C
U E I S K E C H L Q T R E M B L I N G U C H K S Y Q X X Z R
H R P Z F A I T H T L C R C J C C I A X G J R M B B L A A R

WORD LIST:

BLAMELESS
EPAPHRODITUS
FAITH
FEAR
GRATITUDE

INNOCENT
JESUS
MERCY
MINISTRY
OBEY

PAUL
PHILIPPI
PURPOSE
REJOICE
SALVATION

SERVANT
SHINE
STARS
TIMOTHY
TREMBLING