



MESSAGE: GARY DARNELL

MUSIC: DAN GILLETTE, BROOKE THIELEN

DATE: APRIL 11, 2021

Experience Life Together—Like Paul & Timothy

Our Foundation: a shared life with God equips us for a shared life with one another.

Eph. 4:16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

2Tim. 1:2a To Timothy, my beloved child:

How to stimulate others to godly growth

1. We instruct one another.

2Tim. 1:8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God,

2. We model for one another.

2Tim. 3:10 You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, ...

See 1 Timothy 4:12.

3. We encourage one another.

2Tim. 3:14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it

How to stimulate others to effective service

1. We instruct one another.

2Tim. 1:14 By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

2. We model for one another.

2Tim. 1:11 for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, 12 which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me.

3. We encourage one another.

2Tim. 1:6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, 2 for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

How can each of us develop friendships like this?

Remember Eph. 4:16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Discussion & Reflection Questions

1. Read Ephesians 4:16 a few times. What does this verse reveal about our interaction and friendship with God's people?
2. Develop relationships by being *relational*; above all, ask questions! How can you prepare to be relational?
3. It's fine to pursue people who are "just like you" in personality & gifting. How did this work for Paul & Timothy?
4. Read 1 Timothy 5:1-2 below a few times. How does this passage help us understand the kinds of relationships we should be developing?

1Tim. 5:1 Do not rebuke an older man but encourage him as you would a father, younger men as brothers, 2 older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity.

5. Determine before the Lord your next steps.
 - a. Do you need to make any adjustments in how you relate to people?
 - b. What can you do to achieve them?
 - c. Identify someone you would like to pursue in friendship (of the same gender) and take a step to do so.

SONGS

"This is Amazing Grace" - Josh Farro, Jeremy Riddle, Phil Wickham

"Graves Into Gardens" - Brandon Lake, Chris Brown, Steven Furtick, Tiffany Hammer

"Who You Say I Am" - Ben Fielding, Reuben Morgan

"Jesus Paid It All" - John Thomas Grape, Elvina M. Hall, Alex Nifong

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$43,808.00

WEEKLY NEED: \$35,272.00

YTD GIVING: \$416,199.64

YTD GENERAL NEED: \$493,808.00