



Part 5: A Life Worth Leading

Philippians 2:14-30

Note: We have provided more questions here than you will likely need. Please pick and choose the questions you think will create the best discussion in your group.

Ask

- At the start of the message Pastor Lance said that our reputation matters *and* it doesn't matter. What are some circumstances where our reputation matters, and what are some circumstances where it doesn't?

Discuss

Read

Read Philippians 2:14-18

"Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial

offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.
Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.”

Ask

- What is the difference between grumbling and raising appropriate concerns? How can we seek to bring about change without grumbling?
- Are you a grumbler? What kinds of circumstances cause you to grumble towards God or others? *Leader note: Lance mentioned three common categories: grumbling against God, others, or our circumstances.* How can we lessen our grumbling and increase our sense of thankfulness?
- Pastor Lance said there is a big difference between debating and dividing. Are you comfortable co-existing with people who think differently than you? If you are, how do you do that? If you are not, what makes it difficult for you?
- How is co-existing with people who think differently than you necessary for true community?

Watch

Watch the first video clip at www.bridgeway.church/ambassadors.

Ask

- What are some practical ways that Christians can function as “lighthouses” in a culture that has so much “ambient light?”

Read

Read Philippians 2:19-24

“I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. But you know Timothy’s proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel. I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also.”

- Pastor Lance talked about his desire that we would be a church full of spiritual parents and spiritual siblings. How would you define a spiritual parent? How would you define a spiritual sibling?
- What do those roles entail?

- Do you identify more as a spiritual parent or a spiritual sibling? Why do you identify that way?
- Who is someone who has functioned as a spiritual parent or spiritual sibling to you? What are some practical ways that they influenced you?

Read

Read Philippians 2:25-30

"I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. Indeed he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and honor such men, for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me."

Ask

- In this passage, Paul talks about how sad he would have been if Epaphroditus had died. We all deal with loss. How have others unknowingly minimized your feelings around grief or loss? What sorts of words and practices do we need to be careful to avoid when comforting those who are grieving?
- What has helped you in process grief and loss? How can we help and support those who are grieving?

Close

Say

In the book of Philippians, Paul repeatedly highlights the importance of unity among believers and the way our character affects our relationships with others and our witness. Holidays can be a tempting time to grumble against those around us or grumble about what we don't have in comparison to others.

Apply

Break into pairs and answer the following questions. Have each pair close their time by praying for one another. What from this passage stands out to you for application in

your own life? What is one thing you could do differently this week to respond to what God has highlighted to you from the passage and the conversation at your group?