

V. **COURAGE:**

God is looking for men who put **risk** over security.

“29 Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem;

30 because for the work of Christ he came close to death, not regarding his life, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.” **Philippians 2:29-30**

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.”

Romans 12:1

“For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it.” **Mark 8:35**

God Is Looking For People He Can Use

“For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him....” **II Chronicles 16:9a**

He is looking for people (men) of compassion, consistency, cooperation, commitment and courage. It is sad that Paul says of Timothy, “I have no one like minded” (2:20). Why not? Why aren’t more men of God like Paul and Timothy? Let’s all discover joy through service!

GO BEYOND HAPPINESS AND CHOOSE #JOY

JOY

**Beyond Happiness
Discovering Joy Through Service
Pastor Steve Reynolds**

INTRODUCTION

A. Have you lost your joy in a negative world? God is the source of true joy. No matter what circumstances you face, He will provide extreme joy in your life!

“Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!” **Philippians 4:4**

Joy is an internal choice of hope based on my belief in Jesus Christ.

B. The book of Philippians is my favorite book of the Bible:

1. It is a **personal** book that reveals a lot about Paul.
2. It is a **practical** book that deals with relevant issues.
3. It is a **positive** book that focuses on joy.

C. In this powerful study of the book of Philippians, you’ll discover the difference between happiness and joy, and how you can experience the lasting joy that God wants for your life.

Apr 21	The Joy Of Easter
Apr 28	Building Joyful Relationships
May 5	Finding Joy Through Suffering
May 12	Experiencing Joy When You’re Stressed
May 19	The Secret Of Joy In Conflict
May 26	The Daily Joy Workout
Jun 2	The Keys To Eternal Joy
Jun 9	The Joy Of Doing Right
TODAY	Discovering Joy Through Service
Jun 24	The Joy Of Generous Living

D. **Text:** Philippians 2:19-30 (Pew Bible/Page 205/New Test.)

DISCOVERING JOY THROUGH SERVICE

Paul uses two examples of men who are great servants of God.

- **Timothy**
“For I have no one like-minded,…” Philippians 2:20a
- **Epaphroditis**
“...and hold such men in esteem;” Philippians 2:29b

Five Qualities God Is Looking For In Men (All Servants)

I. **COMPASSION:**

God is looking for men who put **people** before possessions.

“19 But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your state.

20 For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state.

21 For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:19-21

“33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion.

34 So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

35 On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.’” Luke 10:33-35

II. **CONSISTENCY:**

God is looking for men who put **integrity** before image.

“But you know his proven character, that as a son with his father he served with me in the gospel.” Philippians 2:22

“He who walks with integrity walks securely, But he who perverts his ways will become known.” Proverbs 10:9

“The righteous man walks in his integrity; His children are blessed after him.” Proverbs 20:7

III. **COOPERATION:**

God is looking for men who put **unity** before individuality.

“Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need;”

Philippians 2:25

“So all the men of Israel were gathered against the city, united together as one man.” Judges 20:11

IV. **COMMITMENT:**

God is looking for men who put **persevering** ahead of quitting.

“27 For indeed he was sick almost unto death; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.

28 Therefore I sent him the more eagerly, that when you see him again you may rejoice, and I may be less sorrowful.”

Philippians 2:27-28

“Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God.” Philippians 4:18

“Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.” James 2:17