

Joy in Interdependence Philippians 2:19-30

Being a friend who builds genuine joy into someone's life is about putting _____, even above your own. In this age of digital "friendships" that steal our joy rather than build it, such selflessness is a rare commodity.

Discussion 1. Talk about a selfless friend in your life who puts your interests ahead of his/her own. Is there a friend in your life for whom you need to be more selfless? What might it look like to put their interests ahead of your own?

In the midst of a culture addicted to independence or self-reliance, Christ followers must learn the deep joy of growing increasingly _____ on each other. It is a kingdom principle.

Discussion 2. For you, what scares you the most about actually being interdependent with other Christians? What qualities or characteristics do you look for in someone before you "depend" on them?

Sometimes we are the teacher and sometimes the student; sometimes the influencer and sometimes the one influenced; part of the joy we get from Christian community is the _____ of _____ we are called upon to play in each other's lives.

Discussion 3. How do you feel about having to play a new role (one you are not accustomed to playing) in a given relationship? How does your relationship with God and prayer and scripture help you with this?

There is a certain joy we can never fully know unless and until we are _____ to Christ, and are living lives of interdependence with others who are likewise completely surrendered to Christ.

Discussion 4. If you wanted to surround yourself with Christians who are truly sold out and completely surrendered to Christ, what kinds of things would you look for in their lives to know that? What does more and more "surrender to Christ" look like in your life?

Discussion 5. How does this lesson cause you to pray? How does it prepare your heart for worship?