

To Live Is Christ

Week 3 - Deep Partnership in the Gospel

Senior Teaching Pastor Jim Supp - Reston Bible Church - February 18th, 2024



And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only.

Philippians 4:15 ESV

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.

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.

Philippians 2:19-30 ESV



PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY

AD 46-48

ACTS 13:4-14:28

<https://devotionsbylv.blogspot.com>

Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra. A disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek. He was well spoken of by the brothers at Lystra and Iconium. Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him...

Acts 16:1-3a ESV

1. Like-Minded

+ For I have no one like him...

Philippians 2:20a ESV

For I have no one like-minded...

Philippians 2:20a NKJV

isopsychos – like-minded; implies having the same positive character, affections and especially mindset as another.

+

magnanimous = generous in forgiving an insult.

“One-souled or equal-souled”

*S Lawson
Philippians for You*

...who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 2:20b-21 ESV

2. Reliable



But you know Timothy's proven worth...

Philippians 2:22a ESV

Proven Worth = Dependable: the quality of being proven to be dependable or reliable.

+

To try to learn the genuineness of something by examination and testing, often through actual use

“The word was used of testing a metal by putting it in a furnace in order to reveal if it was genuine metal or an imitation. If it were a false alloy, the substance would dissolve. If it were true gold or silver, the precious metal would remain... The true metal would be purer as a result of going through the fire.”

Steven Lawson

3. True Servant

...how as a son with a father he has served
with me in the gospel.

Philippians 2:22b ESV

...that like a child with his father he served
with me to advance the Good News.

Philippians 2:22b CJB

**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...**

Philippians 2:25 ESV

4. My Brother

I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel...

Philippians 1:12 ESV

And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

Philippians 1:14 ESV

Then his mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd. And he was told, “Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, desiring to see you.” But he answered them, “My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.”

Luke 8:19-21 ESV

5. Fellow Worker

Synergos – working together in harmony.

Synergy: the interaction of elements that when combined produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements

6. Fellow Soldier



7. Your Messenger

Apostolos: one sent on a mission to represent the interests of someone else.

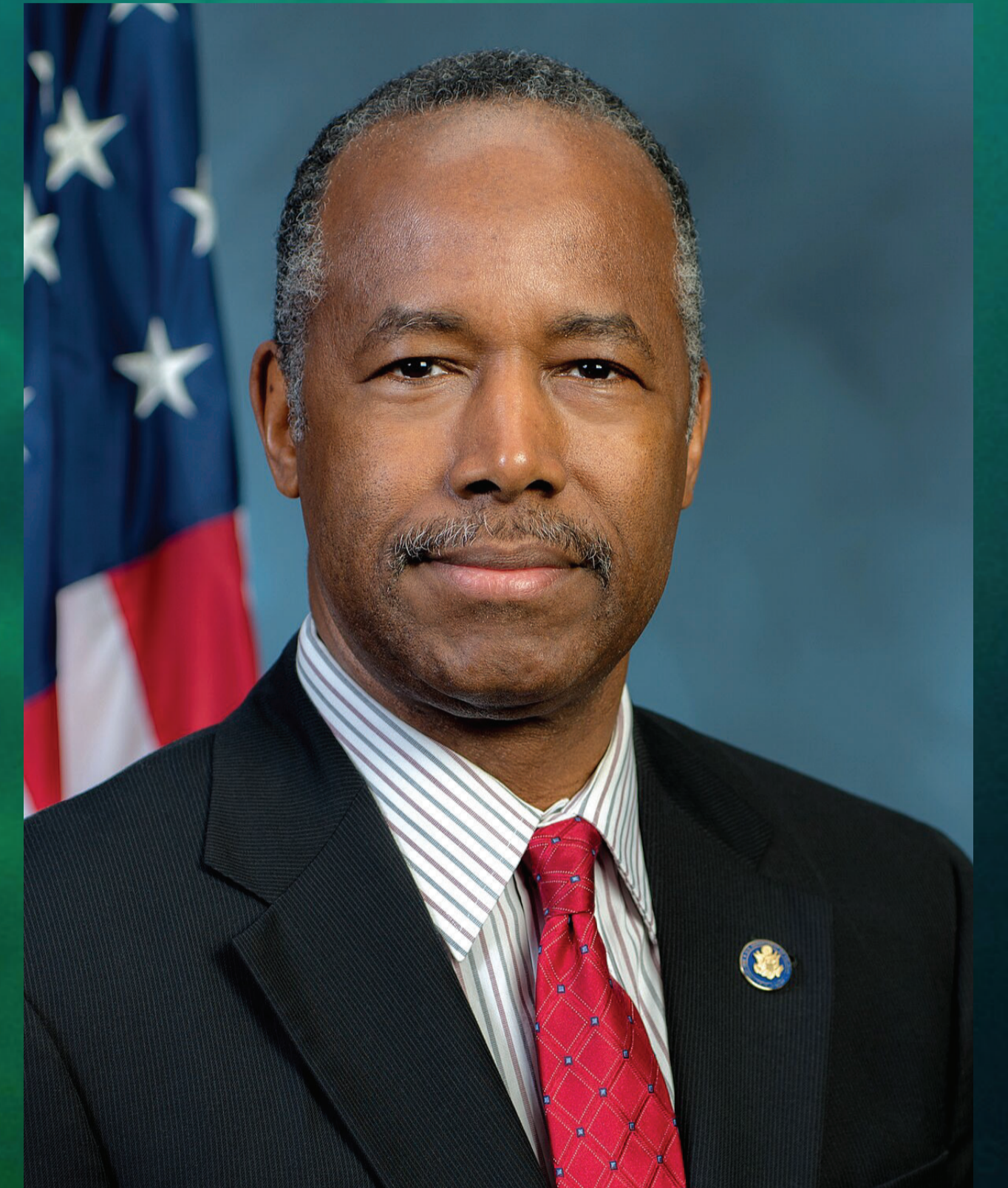
Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a **messenger** greater than the one who sent him.

John 13:16 ESV

Angelos – Someone who carries a message.

So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a **messenger** of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited.

2 Corinthians 12:7 ESV



Mother Theresa, Bono, Dr. Francis Collins and Dr. Ben Carson

8. Minister to My Need





Charles H Spurgeon
Rendering

**“If God has called you to be His servant,
why stoop to be a king?”**

To Live Is Christ results in Deep Partnership in the Gospel:

- **Like-Minded – Same Character & Mindset in Jesus**
- **Reliable – Proven, consistent & Dependable**
- **True Servant – Unsung Selfless Work for the Kingdom**
- **My Brother – Relational Depth, like close family**
- **Fellow Worker – Diligently labors, Working with Others**
- **Fellow Soldier – Shoulder to Shoulder in the trenches**
- **Messenger – Represents the Interests of Christ & Others**
- **Minister – Deep and genuine care for the needs of others**