



# The Creek Courier

Weekly Update July 30, 2021

*Loving God*

*Learning Together*

*Leading Others to Christ*

LifeGroups  
9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship  
10:30 a.m.

## Sermon: What The Bible Says About Racism

Philippians to worry. And yet, Paul affirms him as a brother, a fellow worker, and one who, in spite of his health problems, ministered to the apostle.

Now I wonder, if we had been with Paul, what kind of letter might he have written about us? Is what people see and hear us say about our faith what they get in proven character?

Ponder this: *What have the refining fires of life produced in our character?*

- Bruce

Prayer Ministry  
Sunday afternoon at 5:00  
Family Life Center.

Baptist Men  
Meeting Sunday morning in the Family Life Center.  
Breakfast will be served at 8:00.  
Johnny Yount will have the devotion.

Women's Ministry  
Summer Luau  
August 2 6:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall  
Food, Fun and Fellowship  
Childcare provided.

Summer FUN FEST  
Our Summer Fun Fest continues this Wednesday night, August 4 from 6 to 8 in the Family Life Center. Dinner will be served at 6:00, followed by worship and fun activities! Our theme for this Wednesday night is "Tye Dye Night!"

Pastors Tim and Josh and your deacons are available to help with any needs you might have.

On-call deacon for the next week is Tony Norwood.

Tony can be reached at 252-767-7736 .

Pastor Tim can be reached at 252-432-6780.

Pastor Josh can be reached at 919-606-0537.

Dear Church,

One of the best commendations of a person is to say of him or her, "What you see is what you get." We all appreciate people who are consistent, dependable, loyal, and trustworthy. We admire those who are the same inside and out and are not working on some hidden agenda. Often it's under pressure or in the trials of adversity that we see what people really are. And a person's relationships have a way of revealing the quality of his or her character.

During a recent Bible study I was reading Paul's assessment of the character of two of his friends, Timothy and Epaphroditus. As I read, it occurred to me that Paul was, in a sense, writing letters of commendation for these two faithful servants. Then I thought, wouldn't it be wonderful if someone of Paul's stature could say the same things about us that he said about Timothy and Epaphroditus?

Here is the text of what Paul wrote of his two friends:

***But I hope, in the Lord Jesus, to send Timothy to you shortly, so that I also may be encouraged when I learn of your condition. For I have no one else of kindred spirit who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare. For they all seek after their own interests, not those of Christ Jesus. But you know of his proven character, that he served with me in the furtherance of the gospel like a child serving his father.***

***But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger and minister to my need, because he was longing for you all and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. For indeed he was sick to the point of death.***

***Therefore I have sent him all the more eagerly, so that when you see him again you may rejoice and I may be less concerned about you. Receive him then in the Lord with all joy, and hold people like him in high regard, because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to compensate for your absence in your service to me.***

**Philippians 2:19-22; 25-26; 28-30**

Paul affirmed Timothy for having a proven character. The word proven in the text takes on the meaning of the word tested. Over the years since he introduced young Timothy to Christ, Paul had observed how Timothy's character had developed. Timothy became a son in the faith. He overcame a spirit of timidity and fear to become a faithful disciple of Christ and a loyal friend to Paul.

The Philippians had commissioned Epaphroditus to go and help Paul in his time of need. During his time in Rome, Epaphroditus had his character tested by an apparently significant illness as he almost died. However, his greatest concern was that he might cause his fellow