



# PHILIPPIANS

— BEING JOYFUL DISCIPLES —



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Joy in Humility  
Philippians 2:1-11

# Lesson goals

- Value add to those who have already completed the study
- Spark meditation and conversation for those yet to complete the study
- Challenge and engage those who aren't doing the study

# Humility

- The quality of having a modest or low view of one's importance.
- Seeking to bring glory and honour to God and looking out for the interests of others
- A true and accurate view of one's self in the context of a Biblical Worldview



# What humility isn't

**Arrogance:** this comes from anger and stubbornness, a failure to recognise our failure - we all fall short of the glory of God.

**Selfishness:** this comes from greed, and a failure to recognise our call to discipleship and community

**Timidity:** this comes from fear, and forgets that we can pray boldly to God and speak with confidence of Christ and his salvation

**Perpetual Guilt:** This is the pressure and temptation of the Accuser, and ignores the all consuming mercy and forgiveness found in Christ.

# Humility in Community

- Have the same love - the comforting love of Christ
- Be of one spirit - share in the Holy Spirit
- Be of one mind - aim your thoughts towards tenderness and compassion
- In humility value others: not in self-deprecation, nor mere politeness, but in true humility
- Communal humility: We must be both humble enough to value the needs of others, and humble enough to allow others to value our needs.

# Humility in Conflict

- Christ's exaltation to the highest place
- Conflict over theology: it is not about who is right and who is wrong, but finding God's good and perfect will
- Conflict over worldly issues: reject selfish ambition or vain conceit, embrace the interest of others (not an instruction to accept abuse or selfishness in others - be as innocent as a dove but as wise as a serpent - Matthew 10:16)

# Humility in Presentation

- Humility should seek to negate social and economic circumstance
- Whatever riches we have now will rust, we can't take them with us
- Neither do we take our poverty with us, the struggles we go through now are nothing in comparison to the joy of an eternity at the side of Christ
- Do not consider equality with God a thing to be grasped
- Take the very nature of a servant
- Be obedient to the point of worldly penalty - even (or especially) undeserved



# Humility in Outreach

- Why do we go on mission? why share the gospel? why preach?
- It benefits the people we reach out to - this is good and right, but not the humble why
- It benefits us, we gain so much from reaching out and sharing with others, sometimes it feels like we get more! - this is a gift from God, but again not the humble why
- The humble why: So that every knee bows, every tongue acknowledges, that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of the Father

# Joy in Humility

- Humility centres us in Christ - neither arrogant nor timid
- If joy is experienced beyond and outside of emotional states and stimuli, humility is how we clear the emotional space to experience it
- I am the chief of sinners, I am a forgiven child of the Most High God and brother of Christ- both are true!
- Lose the anger of arrogance, the fear of timidity, the greed of selfishness and the guilt of the unforgiven - find Joy in Humility!