

# Being like Jesus

Philippians 2:1-11



## Life in the real world...

Sometimes "Sunday morning answers" seem not very helpful in the real world  
Tell the truth...which might bring more conflict or trouble  
Love your enemies...and expose ourselves to pain!  
Consider others above yourselves...

## Paul=the author's purpose

"...I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me." *Philippians 1:25-26*

Maturity in Christ and joy to the glory of God  
So that is my goal also

## Philippians 2:1-11

6-8: Jesus **radically** humbled Himself

9-11: We worship Jesus...

because God the Father exalted Him  
because of Jesus' humility and self-sacrifice

### Worship requires transformation

Worshiping someone without any real desire to become like them is empty  
Claiming and experiencing benefits in Christ brings the obligation to follow Him in real life

1-4: This completes God's work in their lives

5:



## Big Idea

Christ's perfect humility and self-sacrifice  
are the model for

how Christians must live in relation to others

Jesus is presented as the model and motivation  
for our actions in community

Humbly serving others is not optional!

**Sin consumes humble people** (who consider others above themselves)

Our broken world still consumes humble people

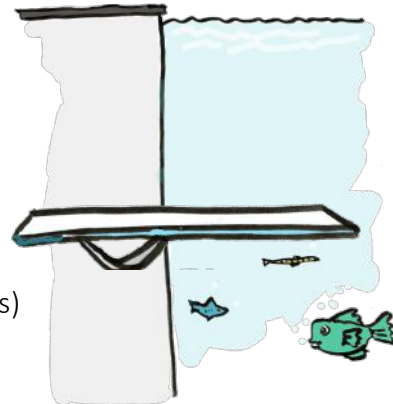
**God raises humble people to glory**

**...often (usually) only after loss and sacrifice**

"Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." *1 Peter 5:6-7*

We are to humble ourselves trusting God to raise us up when He chooses

**Christian humility is a bold act of faith in God**



## Application

### Value others above ourselves

Hands: serve others, meet needs, be generous

Heart: empathy, caring, listening, asking

Head: learning, considering other perspectives

In every part of life

Examples in our vision: Valuing our differences

"For everyone looks out for their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ." *Philippians 2:21*

### Sin can twist this command to evil

**Not:** "I have no value"

**Not:** "My interests don't matter"

Value others ABOVE self, not INSTEAD of self

Each one is a child of God  
Each one contributes to God's design  
Each person helps make us who we are together  
All of us need to learn humility

#### **Some of us need to learn humble boldness**

*"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." 1 Corinthians 12:27*

*"No one should seek their own good, but the good of others." 1 Corinthians 10:24*

*"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks or the church of God—even as I try to please everyone in every way. For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved." 1 Corinthians 10:31-33*

#### **Trust God to raise us up in Christ**

*"Humble yourselves under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time." 1 Peter 5:6*

Christian humility is a bold act of faith

#### **Our Vision**

To be a church that is FOR, OF, and BY the peoples of many nations

Core value: Diverse unity

REQUIRES the mindset of Jesus

valuing others above ourselves

head, heart, and hands

Whether we are "above" or "below" others

**Oh, to be transformed by the Spirit of God to boldly join the path to maturity and joy in Christ**

---

#### **Reflection Questions for later today or this week...**

1. What makes it hard to humble ourselves, and to be treated as a servant?
2. What does it mean to value others above ourselves? What makes it hard to do it?
3. "Sin can twist this command to evil." How can that happen? How should we guard against that?
4. In what way should humbling ourselves, and valuing others above ourselves, be an active of faith? What are we trusting God to do?
5. How does this command relate to our vision as a church? What does it look like to pursue this vision through obedience to this command?

---

#### **Conversation Starters**

"Humility is a noble idea that doesn't work in the real world." Do you agree or disagree? Why?