



GLC  PRESENTS:

JOY FOR ALL SEASONS

PHILIPPIANS: A BOOK STUDY

SESSION 3

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OUTLINE

A. Christ our Life.	Chapter One
B. Christ our Mind.	Chapter Two
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A. Christ our Mind.

The church at Philippi was doing well and Paul had a great relationship with them.

- Their doctrine was good and Paul doesn't find any error to correct.
- They were making disciples and were missions minded. Partnering with Paul in his ministry.
- They were also generous givers and willing to suffer for the cause of Jesus Christ.

However, there was at least one area they needed to deal with. Paul wanted them to learn to think like Christ and grow in their humility.

*“Paul knew what some church workers today do not know,
that there is a difference between unity and uniformity.
True spiritual unity comes from within; it is a matter of the heart.
Uniformity is the result of pressure from without.”*

WARREN WIERSBE

- Ephesians 4:3
- Colossians 3:14
- This humble, self-sacrificing love, produced by the Holy Spirit in us binds us together and creates real unity.

1. Christ's Desire. (Philippians 2:1)

Paul has already hinted at the need for unity at the end of chapter one. Now, carried along by the Holy Spirit, he pens the greatest passage on humility in the entire Word of God.

- The word “if” in verse one is a first class conditional and it is meant to be understood as a certainty not a maybe.
- Uncertainty would only apply if you were reading this as an unbeliever. If we love the Lord Jesus then the word “if” can be understood as “since” or “because”.

a. The Lord Jesus Christ desires unity. (Philippians 2:1)

Paul now launches into 3 requests for unity and the first is based on all that the Lord Jesus has done for us.

**Think of all He has done for you
and the joy He has brought you.**

**Will you now deny Him the one thing
that brings joy to His heart?**

b. The Holy Spirit desires unity. (Philippians 2:1)

Paul then turns our attention to the Holy Spirit and reminds us that He too desires and works to bring unity.

**Think of all the joy He has brought to your life.
Will you now deny Him the one thing that brings Him joy?**

c. The Apostle Paul desires unity. (Philippians 2:2)

Finally Paul speaks as their Pastor. He is very close to them and they have deep love and gratitude towards him.

In the second part of verse 2 Paul tells us what that unity will look like:

1. You will have one mind.
2. You will have one love.
3. You will have one soul.
4. You will have one purpose.

**As your spiritual father I think of you all with great joy.
Now, make my joy complete, by unifying in humble love.**

2. Christ's Demand (Philippians 2:3-4)

In chapter one we learned that the secret to great joy in the face of difficult circumstances is to follow Christ with a **single-mind**.

Now in chapter two we will learn that the secret to finding joy when dealing with difficult people is a **submissive mind**.

*“The humble person is not one who thinks meanly of himself,
he simply does not think of himself at all.”*

ANDREW MURRAY

2. Christ's Demonstration. (Philippians 2:5)

The Holy Spirit moves Paul to start at the top of the list with the greatest example of humility the universe has ever seen or ever will see.

a. The example of Jesus Christ (Philippians 2:6-8)

Verses 5-11 may be the deepest well of theological thought in the entire Bible.

SEVEN STEPS OF HUMILITY

He is God but did not hang on to His glory, majesty, riches and authority as God.	GOD
He emptied Himself.	
He became a servant.	SLAVE
He became a man.	MAN
He humbled Himself.	CRIMINAL
He allowed man to put Him on trial and kill Him.	
He died by crucifixion a criminal's death.	

- Submission

 - Service

 - Sacrifice
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**This is our example we are called to follow
in submission, service and sacrifice.**

- So with this principle in mind we move to the exaltation of Jesus Christ and we are told that God glorified Him and gave Him a name which is above every other name.
(Philippians 2:9-10)

In the Greek Old Testament **Yahweh** is translated as **Kyrios**. In the New Testament **Kyrios** is translated **Lord**.

- Kyrios is from a root word which means “supreme”. Literally translated it means “Sovereign Ruler, Supreme Authority, Master, Owner, Ruler and God.

THREE STEPS OF EXALTATION

Preeminent in His Coronation. Philippians 2:9, 1 Timothy 6:14–15	God highly exalted Him.
Preeminent in His Dominion. Philippians 2:10, 1 Timothy 6:16	Every knee will bow before Him.
Preeminent in His Salutation. Philippians 2:11, Romans 10:9	Every tongue confess Him.

Jesus Christ is Lord

- If we are genuine followers of Jesus Christ and He is indeed our Lord then our lives should show it. **(Philippians 2:12)**

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- God does demand our obedience but He then indwells us and enables us to obey. **(Philippians 2:13)**

 - Jesus was humble, He never complained and He always put the needs of others before His own. **(Philippians 2:14)**

“Anything this side of hell is pure grace.”

JERRY BRIDGES

- Paul gives us three reasons why we should live this way:
 1. Philippians 2:15a

 2. Philippians 2:15b

 3. Philippians 2:16

The principle in verses 1-16 is simple:

God calls us to work out our salvation on a daily basis while living in complete dependence upon His presence and power. We are to do this joyfully, in humility and without complaint.

Now in verses 17-30 we are given three examples to follow: Paul, Timothy and Epaphroditus.

b. The example of Jesus Christ (Philippians 2:17-18)

In Paul's life we see an incredible lesson in joyful sacrifice.

c. The example of Timothy. (Philippians 2:19)

- In Timothy's life we see joyful submission.

- In Timothy we find an ordinary young man that had yielded his life to the extraordinary power of the indwelling Holy Spirit.

1. Philippians 2:20

2. Philippians 2:21

3. Philippians 2:22

- Timothy was a great encouragement to Paul and it would be a great sacrifice to send him away to Philippi. But Paul cared far more about their well-being than his own and he trusted God to meet his needs. **(Philippians 2:23-24)**

d. The example of Epaphroditus. (Philippians 2:25)

Our final example of humility is from the church in Philippi, one of their own. In his life we see joyful selfless-service.

1. Philippians 2:25

2. Philippians 2:26-27

3. Philippians 2:28-30

We are called to submit our lives to His Lordship and give them away in:

Joyful humble submission

Joyful humble service

Joyful humble sacrifice

“I cannot conceive it possible for anyone truly to receive Christ as Savior and yet not to receive him as Lord. A man who is really saved by grace does not need to be told that he is under solemn obligations to serve Christ. The new life within him tells him that. Instead of regarding it as a burden, he gladly surrenders himself – body, soul, and spirit- to the Lord who has redeemed him, reckoning this to be his reasonable service.”

CHARLES SPURGEON

