

Date: October 5, 2025

Series: Philippians: Triumphant, Tenacious, Battle-Tested Joy

Title: The Mind of Christ

Text: Philippians 2:1-5



INTRODUCTION

“For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” (Philippians 1:21)

Philippians 2:1-5

In Summary: Paul is going to forcefully and convincingly argue for daily, ongoing, life-changing, pervasive UNITY & HUMILITY that is directly linked to, powered by, and grounded in Jesus!

I. UNITY & HUMILITY: THE MOST UNNATURAL WAY TO LIVE

“So IF there is any ENCOURAGEMENT in Christ, any COMFORT from love, any PARTICIPATION in the Spirit, any AFFECTION and SYMPATHY...” (Philippians 2:1)

(Romans 8:38-39; 1 Corinthians 6:19; John 15:26; Romans 5:5)

Note: Paul is going to base his plea for unity and humility upon what God has ALREADY DONE for us in giving us encouragement in Christ, in giving us comfort through His love, in giving us the fellowship of the Spirit, and in giving us affection and sympathy for one another.

A. Cultivate Unity

“...complete my joy BY being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.” (Philippians 2:2)

1) While cultivating unity is not easy, it can/should produce ever-expanding joy!

2) Unity is an INSIDE job!

(John 17:20-23)

B. Walk in Humility

“DO NOTHING from selfish ambition or conceit, but IN HUMILITY count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.” (Philippians 2:3-4)

- 1) There is an absolute command to ENTIRELY AVOID selfish ambition and conceit!

Note: Selfish ambition and conceit looks at life and at other people and asks,
“What about ME? How can you serve ME? How can you glorify ME? How can you promote ME? How can I USE YOU for MY desires, for MY plans, and for MY pleasures?”

(John 6:35; Philippians 1:21; Psalm 16:1-2, 11)

- 2) Humility is the opposite of entitlement! In humility we look outward; we prioritize others!

(Acts 20:35; Romans 12:10)

- 3) Humility (others-oriented living) is God’s path and God’s will FOR YOU!!!

The Key: We can only live this way as we remember our sinfulness, our unworthiness, AND as we remember Jesus’ love and Jesus’ grace that has been showered upon us!

“Have THIS MIND among yourselves, which IS YOURS in Christ Jesus...” (Phil. 2:5)

The Conclusion: Jesus is everything! He is the key to unity and the key to humility!
 We have been given and we are called to walk according to THE MIND OF CHRIST!

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. Why do you think Paul began this section on unity and humility with a reminder (in verse 1) of the believers’ encouragement, comfort, fellowship/participation, affection, and sympathy?
2. What do the phrases “same mind”, “same love”, “full accord”, and “one mind” mean and describe?
3. Where does Christian unity come from? What is it based on? Where have you seen it displayed and demonstrated well?
4. What is humility? How would you define and describe it? How can we cultivate it in our lives?
5. What does it mean to “have the mind of Christ”? What kind of mind did He have?