

joy / full

a study in philippians

GROUP GUIDE

Philippians 2:1-11

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ²then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

⁵In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶Who, being in very nature^[a] God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature^[b] of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

⁸And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

⁹Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Holy Ambition // December 1, 2024

1. What do you aspire to and hope to achieve in your life? Share one or two hopes and dreams you have.
2. Read Philippians 2:1-4.
 - How do these verses connect with what has come before? Consider Philippians 1:27 as you discuss.
 - How would you define what it means to live as a citizen of heaven?
 - In what ways have you experienced division in the church like that which was happening in Philippi (see 4:2)? Share what that experience was like.
3. In Romans 6:4-10 Paul speaks about our being 'united with Christ' through faith. After reading what Paul says, discuss the following:
 - What does Paul say it means to be 'united with Christ'?
 - What implications does this reality have for how you live your life?
 - What implications does it have for how you live with others in the church?
4. In verse 3 Paul talks about selfish ambition and vain conceit.
 - How might selfish ambition be present in your life? Share an example.
 - Is all ambition wrong? Share your thoughts.
 - What is the difference between unhealthy ambition and holy ambition?
5. Paul defines humility as putting others and their interests before your own.
 - What is the biggest challenge for you in living this way?
 - Has there been a time when someone humbly served you? Share what that experience was like.
6. To overcome division, Paul invites the church to live humbly. How does Paul envision humility being cultivated? Consider Philippians 2:5-11.
7. How do you plan to incorporate the practices of beholding Jesus and serving others into your life to see the mindset, attitude, and posture of Jesus formed in you? Share your plan and then pray for God to form Jesus like humility in you.

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[LEADERS NOTES]

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU FOLLOW JESUS

- centralheights.ca/followjesus

STORIES

- We love hearing how God moves in people's lives. If you or anyone in your group has a story and would be willing to share, we'd love to hear it and celebrate with you. You can share your story by emailing stories@centralheights.ca

MESSAGE Video and Audio can be found at:

<https://www.centralheights.ca/currentseries>