

Philippians: Joy in Christ (Week 4)

4) Joy in Christ through Humility (2:1–11)

Main Idea: Jesus' example of humility challenges Christians to live a life of selflessness and unity.

Introduction:

1. What does it mean to be humble? *Being humble means that we honestly view ourselves in light of God's holiness and our sinfulness.*

Discussion:

2. Why is it important for those in the church to be humble? *"God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble" (1 Peter 5:5b).*
3. In what ways do humble people treat others better than proud people do? *Whereas the proud care only of themselves, humble people place the interests of others ahead of their own interests (2:3–4).*
4. Is there anyone whom you have been proud with and need to be humble with instead?
5. What kinds of things do we do when we are acting proud?
6. What kinds of things do we do when we are acting humble?
7. How does Jesus model humility for us perfectly? *See verses 5–8.*
8. How does Jesus' death on the cross move us toward humility? *We recognize that the God of the universe became a man and, "in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8b). We deserve nothing, yet receive everything.*
9. Why should verses 10–11 motivate us to tell others about Jesus? *One day, all of us will bow to Jesus, either as Lord and Savior or Judge.*

Reflection and Prayer

Take time this week to pray for the following:

- Unity and humility in the body of the church (both WBC and the Church Universal)
- Like-mindedness toward the work God has called us to do
- Thankfulness that Jesus humbled himself for our sake
- For Jesus to be glorified by every tribe, tongue, people, and nation
- For the lost to bow before Jesus as a believer before they are forced to bow in judgment