HAVE THE SAME MINDSET AS CHRIST JESUS

*(Why do we need to grow in Christ’s humility personally and in relation with others?)*

Philippians 2:1-30

Key Verse: 2:5

1. What have the Philippians received from Christ (1)? In light of this, how did Paul exhort them (2-3)? Why are “selfish ambition” and “vain conceit” so harmful to the Christian community? (Ro 2:8; Gal 5:15,20) How should we think of others in relation to ourselves and express this practically? (3b-4)

2. What should be the basis of relating to one another (5)? Who is Jesus (6a; Jn 1:1; Heb 1:3)? How did Jesus consider himself in terms of exercising his privileges as God[[1]](#footnote-1) (6b-7a)? How did he make himself nothing (7b; Jn 1:14; Mk 10:45)?

3. How did Jesus’ death on the cross reveal his humility (8; Lk 22:42-44)? What is the relationship between humility and obedience (Heb 5:7-8; 10:5-7)? What did God do for the obedient Christ (9-11; Ac 2:32-36; 4:12)? *[Discussion: Why do we need to grow in Christ’s humility personally and in relationship with others?]*

4. What does it mean “to work out your salvation” (12)? What attitude should they have? Why do we need to continue to obey, and what great assurance can we have in doing so (13)? What is God’s good purpose (3:21; Ro 8:28-30)?

5. How does grumbling and arguing hinder God’s good work and destroy Christian community (14-15a; 1 Cor 10:10)? What happens when God’s children hold firmly to the word of life (15b,16b)? How did Paul describe his suffering and set a good example for the Philippians (17-18)?

6. What was Paul’s plan to encourage the Philippians (19-30)? In what respects were Timothy and Epaphroditus exemplary? How do Paul, Timothy and Epaphroditus reflect the character of Christ?

1. The words “did not consider equality with God” do not mean that Jesus gave up his deity. Rather, as Colossians 2:9 says, “For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form….” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)