

Living a Humble Christian Life

(Philippians 2:1-11)

I. Why We Need to be Humble? (2:1)

We have received the **benefits** and **blessings**.

*“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” (2:1)*

1. United with Christ

“encouragement from being united with Christ”

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”
(2 Cor. 5:17).

2. Loved by God and Christ

“comfort from his love”

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life” (Jn.3:16).

“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord”

(Romans 8:38,39)



3. Empowered by the Holy Spirit

“common sharing in the Spirit”

*“But you will receive power when
the Holy Spirit comes on you;*

and you will be my witnesses

*in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends
of the earth” (Acts 1:8)*



4. Assured of Christ's tender and compassionate care

“tenderness and compassion”

*“Come to me, all you who are
weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.*

*Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle
and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls”*

(Matthew 11:28, 29)



The truth is...we:

...have been **encouraged** by Christ,

...have been **loved** by God,

...have the **affection** and the **sympathy**
of our Lord Jesus Christ and our
heavenly Father

...have been invited to **participate** in the Spirit

“listen to what I want to say to you.”

“Be Humble.”



II. How to be Humble? (2:2)

1. Be Like-minded (2:2)

*“then make my joy complete
by being like-minded, having
the same love, being one in spirit
and of one mind.”*

...a deep, abiding, internal unity...



2. Not to be Selfish (2:3a)

*"Do nothing out of selfish ambition
or vain conceit."* (2:3a)

"Selfish ambition"

- Selfish ambition can ruin families
- Selfish ambition can ruin churches
- Selfish ambition can ruin companies
- Selfish ambition can ruin nations



III. What it means to be Humble (2:3b-4)

“but in humility consider others better than yourselves” (3b)

1. It means consider others first.

Negative and false humility

- tearing yourself down
- self-depreciating
- not to take a complement
- to think that you are a humble person



Positive and true humility

True humility is simply thinking about others

"consider others better than yourselves." (2:3b)

"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others" (2:4)

"I have no one else like him, who will show genuine concern for your welfare. ²¹ For everyone looks out for their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 2:20-21).



“Consider others”

1. See the people around us

- see their pain.
- see their joys.

2. Hear other people

- hear their story.
- hear their pain

3. Understand them before we demand to be understood



Results of “**Consider others**”

- It would change your **relationships**
- It would change your **marriage**
- It would change your **home**
- It might change your **neighborhood**

We can learn to be humble.

Power up in humility and reach the **final form**



IV. Who is the Supreme Example of Selfless Humility? (2:5-8)

It is one thing
to be *humble and love others first*,
but it is another thing altogether
to be *humble and love others like Christ*.

"In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus" (2:5)



V. What it means to have a Servanthood Attitude? (2:6-11)

1. It means to give up our rights for others.

”Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage” (2:6)

All His authority and power...
became a channel of giving
rather than a channel for getting.



His focus

- not on being served
but upon serving others
- not upon exalting Himself,
but of emptying Himself



2. It means to become less so others can become more.

- *“rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.” (2:7)*
- He left the splendor of **heaven**...for the smell of a **stable**.
- He left the company of **angels**...for the company of **men**.
- He who was **omnipresent** ...took upon Himself the **limitations** of humanity.



3. It means being obedient whatever the cost (2:8)

”And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross!”

- Jesus **chose** to become obedient to death.
- He didn't have to, but he **chose** to.
- He **chose** to obey death out of love for us.
- Jesus **chose** the most **horrible** and **humiliating** way to die, a death on the **cross**.

- We can never give up as much as He gave up.
- We can never humble ourselves as much as He humbled Himself.

We must be willing to do

- *whatever* He asks,
- *whenever* He asks,
- *wherever* He asks.

*Genuine discipleship involves being obedient to Christ, whatever the *cost*, whenever the *call*, wherever and however.*



VI. What is the Result of Being Humble? (2:9-11)

1. God will be pleased

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

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

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



- *The Father has given Him the name at which every knee will bow and tongue confess that He is Lord.*

2. We will be rewarded

The Principle here is this:

- God rewards our humble, obedient service.
- Not all of God's rewards are for this life, some are for the life to come.

How we treat those who are socially beneath us?

- *With Humility or Superiority?*



Conclusion

We need to live a humble Christian life.

“Why”?

Because you have been encouraged

by **His love**,

Because you have participated in his **Spirit**,

Because of the affection of the **Father**

Because He looks upon you with sympathy....

Because that's all true,

- lay down your **pride**

- receive the **humility** he's calling you to walk in.

Say to this King of kings and this Lord of lords

*“God, I want to be obedient wherever
you lead, whatever you say,
I’m willing to go because of all
you’ve done for me.”*

Let us ask our Lord to...

- Help us be people who see other people.
- Help us be people who serve other people.
- Help us be people who sacrifice the way Jesus sacrificed for us.

Let us live a humble Christian life.

