

Philippians: Finding Joy Right Where You Are!

TALK IT OVER

Key Scriptures

Phil. 2:5-11 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, because He was in the very form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a bondservant, and being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

⁹ Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Key Point

The humility God commands can only come from filling your heart with what Jesus already did for you when He emptied Himself.

Start talking: Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- Have you ever had the experience of eating at a restaurant or family meal, and looking forward to desert, but by the time you finish the meal you have lost all desire for anything more? Share your story.

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Kyle listed four evidences that we are living in a manner worthy of the gospel. How many can you remember (or use your notes!)
 1. Unexplainable _____.
 2. Not being _____.
 3. Having a different _____ toward _____.
 4. By growing in _____.
- Kyle mentioned the word “conceit” in Phil 2:3 is literally “empty glory.” What implications might Paul be thinking about when he uses the same word “Kenosis=emptied Himself” to show what Jesus did, and how that relates to our need for being filled?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Kyle mentioned that scholars have debated what it means that Christ “emptied” Himself. Some options are that He emptied Himself of His glory, his knowledge, his divine prerogative, or metaphorically that “He poured out Himself.” What do you think it means? Why?
- If humility only comes from an inner fullness, and fullness comes from what you are constantly looking at, how have you been doing this last week at looking to God rather than at yourself? (be honest and try not to be self-deprecating).

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- Pray that you would have the mind of Christ and be mindful of the incarnation. Pray for our unity in our church, our country, those you know in leadership, and opportunities to be an agent of reconciliation by living out the gospel.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week!

- Philippians 2:5 is an excellent passage to commit to memory. Plan on when you will take time to read this passage 5 times each day to work on remembering it.