

# Home Group Helps

## Philippians 2:1-11

### *Joy for the Journey: Humility & Exaltation*

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup> complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup> Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**I. The Necessity of Humility (v.1-4)** – So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup> complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

**II. The Example of Humility (v.5-8)** – <sup>5</sup> Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

**III. The Result of Humility (v.9-11)** – <sup>9</sup> Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

#### **1. Launching Question(s):**

- Who do you think of when you think of a humble person that you have known?

#### **2. Observation Question(s):**

- In Jesus' High Priestly Prayer, the Lord prays that Christians will be united as God the Father and God the Son are united (John 17:20-22).
- Why is unity so important in the church?
- Why is humility so important to obtain unity?
- How is humility related to eventual exaltation (see: Matt. 23:12-13; 1 Pet. 5:6)?

### **3. Interpretation Question(s):**

- Vs. 7 states that Jesus, “made himself nothing [or emptied Himself], taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.”
- What does Paul mean by “made Himself nothing/emptied Himself”?
- Vs. 10-11 states that, “at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”
- What does Paul mean by “every” knee and tongue?
- What does he mean by, “in heaven and on earth and under the earth?”

### **4. Reflection Question(s):**

- Why is demonstrating humility, as Christ did, so difficult for Christians at times?
- If God could lower himself to become man, what prevents you from humbling yourself for the sake of unity in the church?
- Does being united in church mean that we should embrace theological error in the church?

### **5. Application Question(s):**

- What is one practical way that you can put others before yourself this week?

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