

“Who Do You Think You Are?”

Philippians 2:1-11

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. (Philippians 2:1-2)

1. The gospel _____ (and ought to change the way that we _____) every part of our lives, especially how we _____ to _____.

(John 13:34-35, Philippians 2:1-2)

2. The best way to protect ourselves from _____ self-centeredness is to make a practice of _____ the needs of others _____. (Philippians 2:3-4)

3. We see Jesus most clearly when we see him _____, and we will never see _____ clearly unless we see _____ in light of the cross.

(Philippians 2:7-11)

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So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. (Philippians 2:1-2)

1. The gospel speaks to (and ought to change the way that we look at) every part of our lives, especially how we relate to others. (John 13:34-35, Philippians 2:1-2)
2. The best way to protect ourselves from chronic self-centeredness is to make a practice of considering the needs of others first. (Philippians 2:3-4)
3. We see Jesus most clearly when we see him on the cross, and we will never see ourselves clearly unless we see ourselves in light of the cross. (Philippians 2:7-11)

Small Group Discussion Questions (Philippians 2:1–11)

1. Selfishness and self awareness:

The message suggested that we are often more sensitive to injustice when it affects us. Why do you think it is so easy to recognize selfishness in others while overlooking it in ourselves? Where might this tendency show up in everyday life?

2. The gospel and our relationships:

Paul connected our experience of Christ's love and the Holy Spirit with the call to unity. How should knowing Jesus change the way we relate to other people, especially when we disagree or experience conflict?

3. Unity without uniformity:

Christian unity doesn't mean everyone will be the same. What is the difference between genuine unity and uniformity? What makes it difficult for a church or small group to maintain unity with so many differences in personalities, preferences, and opinions?

4. Putting others first:

Paul called believers to look not only to their own interests but also to the interests of others. What does this look like in practical terms? Can you think of a situation in which putting someone else's needs first might require a real sacrifice on your part? Is that normally the case?

5. Following the example of Jesus:

Jesus, though fully God, humbled himself and took the form of a servant, even to the point of death on a cross. What stands out to you most about Jesus' humility?

How does his example challenge the way our culture encourages us to think about status, rights, and recognition?

6. The message states, "We see Jesus most clearly when we see him on the cross, and we will never see ourselves clearly unless we see ourselves in light of the cross." Why is that? How do we keep the picture of the cross in our view on a daily basis?

7. The message concluded with the question, "Who do you think you are?" How might asking that question in light of who Jesus is change the way that we respond when we feel overlooked, disrespected, or denied our own way? What's one specific step you could take this week to put the interests of others above your own?