



Sermon Growth Guide

November 8, 2020

Give Thanks – For Jesus

Philippians 2:1-11

Key Verse: Philippians 2:3-4

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others”

Big Idea: When we are truly thankful for Jesus we desire to act like Jesus.

Foundations

Welcome to week two in Philippi! This week, we see the gift of Jesus Himself. Jesus came to us from the most affluent position in the universe, yet humbled Himself, even to death, even to death on a cross. Why? Why such radical humility? To save us! To save you. To offer you and me the opportunity to receive the salvation of God.

Philippians 2:1-11 contains a rich appeal to believers to live extraordinary lives that reflect the very life and humility of Jesus. “Then you will shine (in your city) like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life” (Philippians 2:15-16). As we reflect the beauty of Jesus the yet-believing world is that much closer to receiving the salvation of the Lord.

New Testament theologian Gordon Fee writes, “One can only imagine what might happen if we were to rethink—and re-experience—the love and encouragement that is ours through the Trinity, and on that basis also rethink—and thus reorient—our life in Christ in terms of our relationships to one another. If we ourselves were more truly characterized by the content of this appeal (in Philippians 2:1-11), we might become a more effective people in the world.”

Open your time of study in prayer.

Understanding God’s Word

In verse 1 of chapter 2, Paul asks the believers if they have any “encouragement from being united with Christ” or any “comfort from His love.” Share how you have personally experienced, or not experienced, the union and love of God.

In verses 2-5, what is the appeal to the believer on the basis of having experienced the love of God?

Applying God’s Word

We are called to have “the same mindset of Christ” in verse 5, which is outlined beautifully in verses 6-8. Describe how your circle can pray for you in your growth of living each moment with the very mindset of Christ.

Pastor Tim points to Colossians 2:6 in this week’s sermon. How can you better “walk in Christ” this week?

Witnessing God’s Word

Clothing yourself in the humility of Christ, what one strategic step can you take toward someone this week to witness to them the true Savior and Lord of their heart? Pray together that your time together will result in the saving of many lives.