

# ***The Joy of Unity & Looking Out!***

## **Philippians Series # 4**

### Philippians 2:1-11 ESV

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

### Four Incentives for Unity in the Church—Verse 1

- 1) Encouragement from \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.
- 2) The \_\_\_\_\_ from God's love.
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ with the Spirit.
- 4) The \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.

### Four Marks of Church Unity—Verse 2

- 1) Like-\_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) The \_\_\_\_\_ love.
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ in spirit.
- 4) Oneness in \_\_\_\_\_.

### Two Deterrents to Church Unity—Verse 3

- 1) Self-\_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ hunger.

### Two Cures for Self-centeredness & Glory Hunger—Verses 3-4

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Look \_\_\_\_\_!

**Jesus  
Others  
You  
!**

Seven Downward Steps of the Humiliation of Christ

- 1) He left **heaven!** Verse 6
- 2) He **emptied** Himself! Verse 7
- 3) He came as a **slave!** Verse 7
- 4) He became a **man!** Verses 7-8
- 5) He **humbled** Himself! Verse 8
- 6) He **died** in obedience! Verse 8
- 7) He died on a **cross!** Verse 8

*God came to dwell with man that man might dwell with God!*

Seven Upward Steps of the Exaltation of Jesus Christ

- 1) **Exalted** Him to the highest place! Verse 9
- 2) **Gave** Him the name above every name! Verse 9
- 3) The name of **Jesus** will be honored! Verse 10
- 4) Honored in **heaven!** Verse 10
- 5) Honored on **earth!** Verse 10
- 6) Honored in **hell!** Verse 10
- 7) Every tongue will **confess** that Jesus is Lord Verse 11  
to the glory of God the Father!

Author Unknown

*Jesus, Jesus, Jesus. There's just something about that name.  
Master, Savior, Jesus, like the fragrance after the rain.  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, let all heaven and earth proclaim.  
Kings and kingdoms will all pass away.  
But there's something about that Name!*

Bill & Gloria Gaither



## The Joy of Unity and Looking Out

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**Open:** What communities are you currently a part of?

**Read:** Philippians 2:1-11

1. In the first two verses Paul calls the church to be of one mind. In your view, what do you think it means for believers to be “in full accord and of one mind” (v. 2)? How should each of the reasons cited in verse 1 motivate us toward this pursuit? How do our individual differences potentially complement and/or compete with the goal of single-mindedness?
2. In verses 3 and 4 the text prescribes a life-style of other-centeredness, which enables our pursuit of oneness. What are some practical ways we can cultivate valuing others above ourselves? What thoughts and behaviors tend to inhibit our capacity to selflessly love others?
3. Paul’s ultimate example for our single-mindedness is the example of Christ. From what Paul says in verses 5-8, how does Christ exemplify humility? How does obedience require humility? Is this sacrificial attitude of Christ the expected norm for the church? Why or why not?
4. Verse 5 calls us to have this (Christ’s) mind among ourselves. What in your life would be most affected by following Christ’s model? Looking back at this past week, can you think of any opportunities you missed regarding this command that you are willing to share with the group? If you could have a do-over, what would you do differently?
5. In verses 9-11 we’re told the effects of Christ’s sacrificial obedience. Why do you think Paul draws our attention to God’s exaltation of the name of Jesus (v. 9)? What is the appropriate response to Jesus (vv. 10-11)? How is your life encouraging this response in others?

**Apply:** What can you begin to do as a small group to work toward better biblical single-mindedness?

**Pray:** Pray for God’s help in the need to make personal sacrifice. Pray for unity in our church family. Ask God to work powerfully among us for His glory and our joy.

## Philippians 2:1-11

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