

STUDY THE WORD
Philippians 2:1-4 NIV

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.



PRAY THE WORD –
PHILIPPIANS 2:1-4

- ◆ Ask God to help the people of KEFC live out unity in Christ.
- ◆ Ask God to show His love through you and KEFC.
- ◆ Ask God that the Holy Spirit is evident in your life and that of KEFC.
- ◆ Ask God to help you live out tenderness and compassion.
- ◆ Ask God to help you live out humility in your life.

EXPLORE THE WORD

- Sunday:** Philippians 2:1-4 The personal key to a healthy church. You live out humility.
Monday: 1 Peter 5:5-7 Humble yourself under God’s might hand.
Tuesday: Colossians 3:1-17 Live as one made alive in Christ.
Wed. Ephesians 4:1-6 Unity and maturity in Christ.
Thursday: Micah 6:8 What does God require of you?
Friday: Proverbs 22:4 Humility is the fear of the LORD.
Saturday: James 4:1-12 Submitting to God.

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HELPING PEOPLE FOLLOW JESUS

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Big Idea: Biblical behavior results in harmony, humility and helpfulness.

Memory Verses Philippians 2:3-4 NIV

³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

SERMON NOTES

In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

James 2:17 NIV

To become a mature, spiritually reproducing follower of Jesus we have to interact with the Bible. These questions are designed to help you dig deeper into the Word of God and put it into action.



Read Philippians 2:1-4

What does harmony in the body of Christ look like?

Discuss these quotes by Ravi Zacharias:

“Yes, if truth is not undergirded by love, it makes the possessor of that truth obnoxious and the truth repulsive.”

“Love is hard work. It is the hardest work I know of, work from which you are never entitled to take a vacation.”

How do these quotes relate to harmony, humility and helpfulness?

Notice the contrast in Philippians 2:1-4.

The power to curb conflict:

- That we are in Christ should keep us in unity.
- The power of Christian love should keep us in unity.
- Sharing the Holy Spirit should keep us in unity.
- Human compassion should keep us in unity.
- Humility should keep us in unity.

The power to create conflict:

- Selfish ambition creates disunity.
- Wanting personal prestige creates disunity.
- Concentration on self creates disunity.

Evaluate our church. Which characteristics seem prominent?

How can we as a church promote the characteristics for curbing conflict?

How can we as a church guard against the characteristics contributing to disunity?

If 10 people you know evaluated you, which set of the above characteristics would they most likely identify as you?

What we Can Do

Our Daily Bread

Even though confined to his bed, 92-year-old Morrie Boogaart knit hats for the homeless in Michigan. He had reportedly made more than 8,000 hats in fifteen years. Instead of focusing on his health or limitations, Mr. Boogaart looked beyond himself and did what he could to place the needs of others above his own. He declared that his work made him feel good and gave him a purpose. He said, “I’m going to do this until I go home to the Lord”—which happened in February 2018. Though most recipients of his hats won’t know his story or how much he sacrificed to create each cap, Morrie’s simple act of persevering love is now inspiring people across the world.

We too can look past our struggles, place others before ourselves, and imitate our loving and compassionate Savior, Jesus Christ (Philippians 2:1–5). God in the flesh—the King of Kings—took on the “very nature of a servant” in genuine humility (vv. 6–7). Giving His life—the ultimate sacrifice—He took our place on the cross (v. 8). Jesus gave everything for us . . . all for the glory of God the Father (vv. 9–11).

As believers in Jesus, it’s our privilege to show love and demonstrate concern for others through acts of kindness. Even if we don’t think we have much to offer, we can adopt the attitude of servanthood. We can actively seek opportunities to make a difference in people’s lives by simply doing what we can.

We can model Christ’s love by doing what we can to serve others.