

³ Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind ... ⁴ do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. ⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus ...

Congregation

Phil. 2:6,7

⁶ ...who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men.

Leader

Phil. 2:8,9

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,

Congregation

Phil. 2:10,11

¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, ¹¹and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

A dramatic landscape with a bright light breaking through dark, heavy clouds over a body of water and mountains. The light creates a strong glow and a lens flare effect across the scene.

Becoming a Transforming Community

Philippians 2:5-11

Thinking Like Jesus



© Mary Chambers, 1983.

Bylaws?! What do you mean bylaws? I've waited seven years to rule this group!

Overcome Selfishness? (2:3-5)

- Q. How can I learn to look out for others' interests?
- A. To *live* like Christ we must *think* like Christ.
 - “Have this attitude in yourself which was also in Christ Jesus...” (5)

Equal
with God

Exalted
with God

Didn't Grasp

Servant/
Man

Knee bow/
tongue
confess

Name
Above

Death on
Cross



Overcome Selfishness? (Phil.2:5-11)

- **Theme:** If we humble ourselves with Christ we will be exalted with Christ.



Have this
mind among
yourselves, which
is yours in
Christ Jesus

Philippians 2:5

The Son's Attitude? (2:6ff)

- He existed in form of God...
 - But He didn't grasp equality with God
 - "Morphe" versus "skema"

The Son's Attitude? (2:6ff)

- He emptied Himself...
 - Taking form (‘morphe’) of a bondservant (Mark 10:45)
 - Made in the likeness of man
 - He permanently became a real man, while remaining fully God.
 - He learned obedience (Heb. 5:8)

The Son's Attitude? (2:6ff)

- And found in appearance of man
(`skema'... birth, youth, maturity)
- He humbled Himself
 - Becoming obedient unto death
 - Death on a cross

The Son's Attitude? (2:6ff)

- Compare Satan who exalted self & lured Adam & Eve to exalt self & plunge the race into sin.

The Father's Action (2:9-11)

- God highly exalted Him
- Bestowed name above every name
 - That at the name of Jesus...
 - Every knee should bow (Isaiah 45:23)
 - In heaven, earth & under earth

The Father's Action (2:9-11)

- Every tongue confess ...
 - “Jesus Christ is Lord”
 - To the Glory of God the Father
 - We'll bow now or later
 - Which will it be?
 - Voluntarily?
 - With bitterness or resistance?

Applications:

- Summary...
- He emptied Himself
- He permanently became human
- He used his humanity as a servant
- He voluntarily went to the cross

Equal
with God

Exalted
with God

Didn't Grasp

Servant/
Man

Knee bow/
tongue
confess

Name
Above

Death on
Cross



Applications:

- Since Christ knew who He was & didn't 'grasp', but humbled Himself to the cross, I can avoid defensiveness & anticipate the day Christ equalizes everyone under His exalted feet.

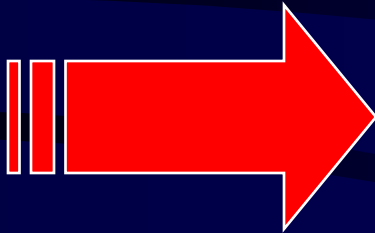
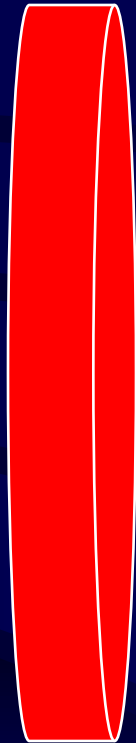
Applications:

- If we know who we are in Christ & humble ourselves with Him we don't have to prove ourselves all the time.
- God sets up circumstances that drive us to rest in Him (Matt. 1:28) & wait for Him to lift us. (1 Pet. 5:6)

Applications:

- The cross alone has power to transform our thinking & acting.
 - The cross is a mindset as well as the event that brought our salvation.
 - We all want to be humble.
Nobody wants to be humbled!
Tony Evans

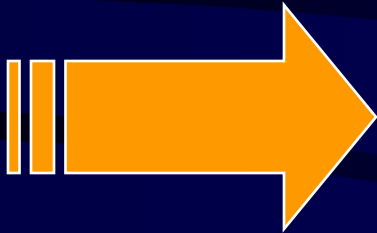
Mind of Flesh



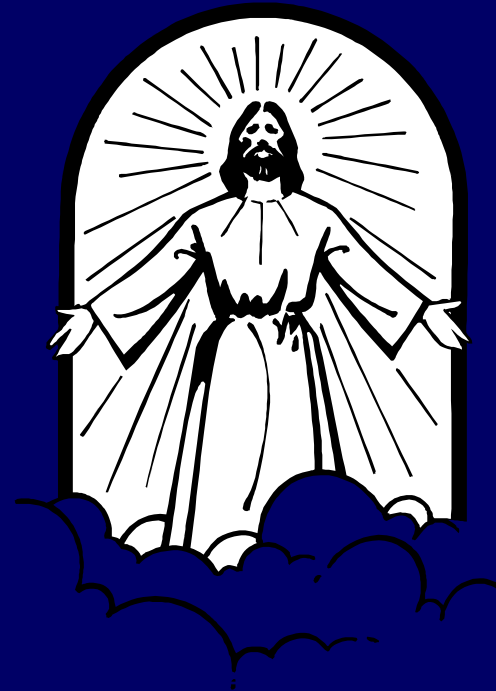
defensiveness

rejection

Mind of Christ



humility



unity

acceptance