

“The Mindset of Christmas”
Phillipians 2:1-11

Paul to the Philippians
1 “If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with 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 purpose. **3** Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. **4** Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. “In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who...” Phil 2:1-4 NIV

Humility and Servanthood Toward Others
(vv. 6-7)
Jesus – God Became Man for Us
“In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: **6** Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; **7** rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.” Phil 2:5-7 (NIV-11)
He Came Not to Be Served, but to Serve
“The Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Mk 10:45

Humility and Servanthood Toward Others (vv. 6-7)

We are Called to Humility and Servanthood toward Others

Jesus Washing the Disciples Feet - John 13:1-17

"You call me Teacher and Lord and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things you will be blessed if you do them."

"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave." Matt 20:26

Humility and Servanthood Toward Others (vv. 6-7)

We are Called to Humility and Servanthood toward Others

Mom and the Zebedee Boys – Matthew 20:17-28

21 "Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom..... 24 When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers. 25 Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. 26 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 27 and whoever wants to be first must be your slave - 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Challenges: Selfish Ambition and Vain Conceit (v. 3)

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." Phil 2:3-4 (NIV-11)

"The true test of humility is how you respond when people start treating you like a servant."

Too Busy Pursuing Our Own Ambitions?
Too Important for Such Menial Tasks?

Resolute to Obey the Father (v. 8)

“And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!”
Phil 2:8 (NIV-11)

Jesus Became “Obedient unto Death”

Resolute to Obey the Father (v. 8)

He Calls Us to Follow Him in Obedience – To Trust and Obey

Take Up Your Cross and Follow Me

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, he **must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me**. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?” Matt 16:24–26 (NIV-11)

Resolute to Obey the Father (v. 8)

He Calls Us to Follow Him in Obedience – To Trust and Obey

The Great Commission

“Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you**. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”” Matt 28:18–20

Resolute to Obey the Father (v. 8)

Challenges for Resolute Obedience

- When I Want to Be in Charge, I Don't Want to Obey God
- When Obeying God Interferes with My Plans and Desires

Living in Christ-Centered Hope (v.9)

"Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Phil 2:9-11 (NIV-11)

Jesus is Exalted to the Highest Place – Jesus is Lord

*Our Hope is Not in Men or Power,
Our Hope is in the Risen and Exalted Jesus and His Kingdom*

Living in Christ-Centered Hope (v.9)

Two "Therefore" Motivations (v. 9 and 12)

"Therefore" in v. 9 – Hope

g "And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross! g Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name," Phil 2:8-9

*The Humble Servant Jesus is Our King and Lord
He's Gone Ahead of Us*

Living in Christ-Centered Hope (v.9)

Two "Therefore" Motivations (v. 9 and 12)

"Therefore" in v. 12 – Accountable and Useful

10 "...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. **12** Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed — not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence — continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, **13** for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose." Phil 2:10-13

We Are Accountable to Him
We Will Be Used for His Purpose
Our Reward, Glory and Honor Lies with Him

May the "Mindset of Christ" Be in Our Hearts and Minds this Year

*In Humility and Servanthood Toward Others
In Resolving to Obey God No Matter What the Cost
To Live Our Lives with Christ-centered Hope*
