

Series: My Cup Overflows, a study in Philippians

Sermon: To Be Like Christ

Primary Text: Philippians 2:1-11

Discussion guide:

- Do you have a story or example of a time when you or someone you know was able to change a behavior or attitude but shifting the way they thought about something?
- Read Romans 12:2
 - What are some examples in your own life where you have conformed to the world in the way you behave, think, and prioritize?
 - Why is a “renewal of your mind” essential to real transformation?
- Read Philippians 2:1
 - Why would unity complete Paul’s joy?
 - Why is division so dangerous to the church?
- Read Philippians 2:2-4
 - What is “selfish ambition”?
 - Look up some other passages in scripture about selfish ambition. What did you find?
 - Why does it always lead to misery?
 - What does it mean to “humble yourself”?
 - Why is it hard to look to the interests of others?
- Read Philippians 2:5, 1 Corinthians 2:16, 2 Corinthians 10:5 – what are these verses saying?
 - How can we learn to think like Christ?
- Read Philippians 2:6
 - What potential did Jesus have in being “in the form of God”?
 - Why is it impressive that He was able to not consider equality with God a thing to be grasped?
 - What does this tell you about the advantages and positions you may have in life and what your attitude toward them should be?
 - Based on Jesus’ example in this verse, what does it look like to reject selfish ambition?
 - How does rejecting selfish ambition for helping other produce joy?
- Read Philippians 2:7
 - How did Jesus literally empathize with us? (look up definition of empathy)
 - Why is empathy essential to effective service?
 - How does effective service produce joy?
- Read Philippians 2:8
 - Why was Jesus’ obedience best for us?
 - Why is our obedience always what is best for everyone?

- Can you share a time in your life when obedience wasn't easy but resulted in what was best?
 - How does obedience produce joy?
- Read Philippians 2:9-11
 - What do these verse make you feel?