



SUNDAY MAY 31, 2020

PHILIPPIANS

#JOY: by imitating Jesus

*So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ 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. ~ **Philippians 2:1-11***

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² **complete my joy** by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ~ **Philippians 2:1**

I implore Euodia and I implore Syntyche to be of the **same mind in the Lord**.
~ **Philippians 4:2**

Paul says because you've received...

- Encouragement from being united with Christ
- Comfort from His love
- Fellowship with the Spirit
- Tenderness and compassion

² **Fulfill my joy** by being **like-minded**, having the **same love**, being of **one accord**, of **one mind**. ³ Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. ⁴ Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. ~ **Philippians 2:2-4**

Memory Verse:

⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.

~ **Philippians 2:2-5**

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stay true to the Lord. I love you and long to see you, dear friends, **for you are my joy and the crown** I receive for my work.
~ **Philippians 4:1**

I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. ²¹ I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. ²² “I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. ²³ I am in them and you are in me. **May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.** ~ **John 17:20-23**

FIVE PRACTICAL STEPS OF FINDING JOY THROUGH REDUCED CONFLICT AND GREATER UNITY

1. DON'T ACT OUT OF SELFISH AMBITION

Do nothing from **selfish ambition** or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus. ~ Philippians 2:3-5

2. DON'T ACT OUT IN PRIDE

*Do nothing from selfish ambition **or conceit** ~ Philippians 2:3a*

a) Three Symptoms of a spirit of pride:

- Critical
- Harshness
- Longing for attention

This is what the LORD says: "Don't let the wise boast in their wisdom, or the powerful boast in their power, or the rich boast in their riches. ²⁴ But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the LORD who demonstrates unfailing love and who brings justice and righteousness to the earth, and that I delight in these things. I, the LORD, have spoken!" ~ Jeremiah 9:23-24

3. HUMILITY OF MIND

But in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. ~ Philippians 3b
"Humility is not thinking less of yourself – but thinking of your-self less." C.S. Lewis

4. INCREASE CONSIDERATION OF OTHERS

Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. ~ Philippians 2:4

5. THINK LIKE JESUS

*You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. ⁶ Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. ⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross. ~ **Philippians 2:5-8***

- a) Jesus had thoughts of...
- Self-denial
 - Self-giving
 - Self-sacrifice
 - Selfless love

⁹ Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Next Steps:

- Become a follower of Jesus today
- Memorize Philippians 2:5
- Fill out your digital connect card online
- Give your offering online
- Keep the unity of the spirit