



MAY 5, 2024 | THE JOY OF LOVING OTHERS

THE JOY OF LOVING OTHERS

THE CONTEXT

- PAUL'S LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS WAS WRITTEN FROM PRISON.
- PHILIPPIANS WERE PRIMARILY GREEKS WITH NO REAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE OLD TESTAMENT, SO PAUL NEVER QUOTES FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT AS HE ENCOURAGES THEM.
- KEITH POINTED OUT THE CLARITY OF THE THEME OF PHILIPPIANS SINCE PAUL USED THE TERM "JOY" OR "REJOICE" OVER 16 TIMES. ALSO OF IMPORTANCE, IS THAT HE REFERS TO "THINKING" 15 TIMES AND "REMEMBERING" 10 TIMES, AS SUCH, ONE GETS AN EVEN FURTHER GLIMPSE INTO THE MIND OF PAUL. YOU SEE, THE GREEKS WERE KNOWN FOR THEIR INTELLECTUAL CAPACITY. THEY WERE GREAT THINKERS. THAT'S WHY WE'LL SEE PAUL WRITE THIS LETTER SO PRACTICALLY...SO LOGICALLY...HE KNEW HIS AUDIENCE.

- WEEK 1 – THE JOY OF FOLLOWING JESUS – IN CHRIST, WE HAVE SUSTAINABLE JOY!
- WEEK 2 – THE JOY OF COMPLETION 1:6 – HE WHO BEGAN A GOOD WORK IN US WILL BE FAITHFUL TO COMPLETE IT!
- WEEK 3 – THE JOY OF DELIVERANCE/VINDICATION 1:19 – FOR I KNOW THAT AS YOU PRAY FOR ME AND THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST HELPS ME, THIS WILL LEAD TO MY DELIVERANCE...WORSHIP WHILE YOU WAIT.
- LAST WEEK – GLENN...THE JOY OF SERVING - RFKC



BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

Joy Ride



APRIL 7, 2024 | THE JOY OF FOLLOWING JESUS

TODAY, WE'RE GOING TO EXAMINE WHAT IS REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE TRUE GREATNESS AS A FOLLOWER OF JESUS CHRIST, BOTH CORPORATELY AS A CHURCH AND AS INDIVIDUALS..

JESUS
OTHERS
YOURSELF

WE MUST LIVE IN UNITY!

THIS CHAPTER ALSO TEACHES US HOW WE ARE TO ADOPT OUR THINKING TO THE MINDSET OF JESUS.

HE IS OUR GREAT EXAMPLE AND NOT ONLY ARE WE TO STRIVE TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER, WE MUST ALSO BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF OUR MINDS.

FINALLY, WE WILL SEE HOW GOD THE FATHER RESPONDS TO THE SACRIFICIAL LOVE OF HIS SON, AND IN TURN, WE RESPOND IN LIKE MANNER.

STRIVE FOR UNITY (PHILIPPIANS 2:1-4 NIV)

THE JOY OF LOVING OTHERS FIRST REQUIRES US TO GET ALONG WITH EACH OTHER!

THEY ALSO FACED OPPOSITION AND PERSECUTION FROM OUTSIDE FORCES.

THE SUPER INTELLECTUAL CROWD DIDN'T LEAVE ROOM FOR THINGS OF FAITH...THEY LEANED UPON THEIR OWN WISDOM. AND THE ROMANS WERE ALWAYS AROUND CREATING HAVOC.

JOY
JOY
JOY

THE 3 MINDSETS NECESSARY FOR UNITY:

- **LIKE-MINDEDNESS: HAVING THE SAME PURPOSE AND LOVE. “HAVING A LIKE DISPOSITION OR PURPOSE; OF THE SAME MIND OR HABIT OF THOUGHT.”**
 - THIS DOES NOT MEAN WE ALL HAVE TO THINK THE SAME WAY, BUT IT IS TO SAY WE ARE SEEKING AFTER THE SAME THINGS.

HERE AT MESA, WE EMBRACE FOUR PILLARS WE WANT TO LEAD PEOPLE TOWARD:

KNOW GOD; FIND FREEDOM; DISCOVER PURPOSE; MAKE A DIFFERENCE

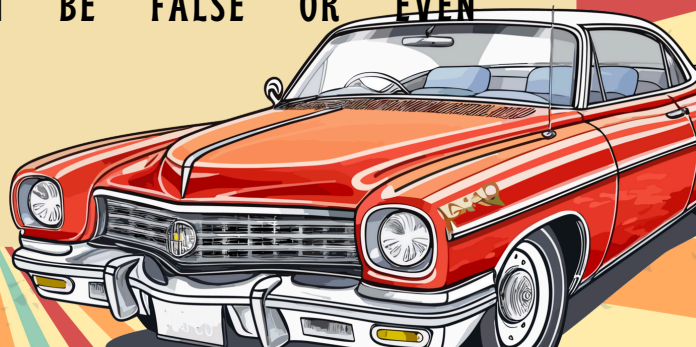


THESE PILLARS POSITION US TO BE UNITED.

- **SELFLESSNESS: NOT DRIVEN BY SELFISH AMBITION OR VAIN CONCEIT.**

REGARD THE NEEDS OF OTHERS AS MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOUR OWN. PUT “US” BEFORE “ME.”

- **HUMILITY: 1 PETER 5:5 - GOD OPPOSES THE PROUD BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE**
 - THE GREEK WORD TRANSLATED “HUMILITY” IN COLOSSIANS 3:12 AND ELSEWHERE LITERALLY MEANS “LOWLINESS OF MIND,” SO WE SEE THAT HUMILITY IS A HEART ATTITUDE, NOT MERELY AN OUTWARD DEMEANOR THAT CAN BE FALSE OR EVEN MANIPULATIVE.



Jesus said in Matthew 5:3 that those who are “poor in spirit” would inherit the kingdom of heaven. Being poor in spirit means that only those who admit to an absolute bankruptcy of spiritual worth will inherit eternal life. Therefore, humility is a prerequisite for the Christian.

IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND WHAT HUMILITY IS NOT.

**IT IS NOT BEING INSECURE.
HUMILITY IS NOT BEING INDECISIVE.
HUMILITY IS NOT BEING INACTIVE.**

SO PUT ON HUMILITY. WHAT HAPPENS IN YOU WILL ALWAYS DETERMINE WHAT HAPPENS THROUGH YOU. WHAT HAPPENS IN YOUR HEART, WHAT HAPPENS IN YOUR MIND DETERMINES WHAT HAPPENS WITH YOUR HANDS.

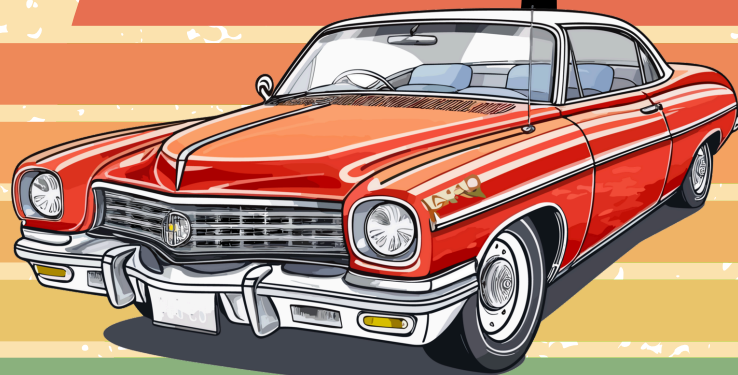
BE HUMBLE OR BE HUMBLED!

ADOPT THE MINDSET OF JESUS (PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8)

YOUR ATTITUDE DETERMINES YOUR ALTITUDE!

WHAT WAS THE MINDSET OF JESUS?

- **HE DEMONSTRATED SACRIFICE:**
 - **ALTHOUGH EQUAL TO GOD, HE SET ASIDE HIS DIVINITY.**
- **HE BECAME A SERVANT: HE TOOK ON HUMAN FORM, BECOMING A SERVANT.**
- **HE EMBODIED RADICAL OBEDIENCE: EVEN TO THE POINT OF DEATH ON THE CROSS.**



JON COURSON

You cannot change your heart – but you can change your mind. Conversely, God can change your heart, but He won't change your mind. Therefore, If I choose to change the way I think about a given situation, God will change my heart to follow suit. But, if I choose not to change my thoughts, God will not change my heart. This is why Solomon said, 'As a man thinks in his heart, so he is.' (Proverbs 23:7)

EXALT THE KING OF KINGS (PHILIPPIANS 2:9-11)

In response to Jesus' lifestyle, God the Father responds...

Exalted Jesus to the highest place.

Confers Upon Jesus the Name Above All Names

ALL CREATION WILL SUBMIT TO JESUS...

Followers of Christ will do so by yielding their lives to Him while they have the opportunity here on earth.

THOSE WHO DO NOT SUBMIT HERE ON EARTH WILL NO LONGER HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY WHEN JESUS JUDGES MANKIND. THEY WILL BE ETERNALLY SEPARATED FROM CHRIST, FULLY COGNIZANT OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR FAILURE TO TRUST IN THE SACRIFICIAL SERVANT KING JESUS.

- Strive for Unity by loving one another by being likeminded, selfless, and humble.
- Adopt the Mindset of Jesus by demonstrating sacrificial love... serving with joy...and radically obeying the truth of God and the calling He's placed on your life.
- And finally, exalt the King of Kings. Jesus is giving all people an opportunity to follow Him. He laid down His life so that we wouldn't have to endure the penalty for our sins.

