

Sermon Guide and Discussion Questions

Christ's Humiliation – Philippians 2:5-11

Sermon Outline

1. Introduction – illustration of being humiliated
2. Not Grasping at Equality (v. 6)
3. Emptying Himself (v. 7)
4. Being Obedient unto Death (v. 8)
5. Conclusion – Christ's humiliation is not just a model for our humility, but also the power that enables us to live humble lives (v. 5)

Scripture Passages Referenced

- John 1:1 - In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.
- Hebrews 1:3 - He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature...
- Mark 11:12 - On the following day, when they came from Bethany, he was hungry.
- Mark 4:38 - But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion.
- John 11:35 - Jesus wept.
- Deuteronomy 21:22-23 - And if a man has committed a crime punishable by death and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree, his body shall not remain all night on the tree, but you shall bury him the same day, for a hanged man is cursed by God.
- John 13:14-15 – If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.
- Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.
- Matthew 20:25-28 - You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them...It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Discussion Questions

- What do you think of when you hear the word 'humiliation'? How does that relate to how we understand Christ's humiliation?
- What does it mean that Christ did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped?
- Why does it matter that Christ acted in such a way?
- How do we understand the reality that Christ emptied Himself?
- What comfort can you find in a Savior who emptied Himself by taking the form of a servant?
- In what way did Christ obey God through His death?
- Why does Paul emphasize the fact that Jesus died on a cross?
- How does Jesus' humiliation serve as an example for us?
- What does true, biblical, humility look like?
- In what ways can you grow in humility?
- How does verse 5 help us understand that Christ not only inspires us, but also enables us?
- How does this shape how we pursue humility in everyday life?
- In what ways does this passage and sermon help you have a bigger view of our glorious Savior?
- How does this passage and sermon make you more thankful for the Lord Jesus Christ?
- How does this passage and sermon challenge you to live differently in light of who Christ is and what He has done?