

The logo features the word "JOY" in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. Below it, the word "PHILIPPIANS" is written in smaller, white, sans-serif capital letters. The word "in" is positioned between "JOY" and "PHILIPPIANS" in a smaller, lowercase font. The text is set against a dark blue background with a subtle, colorful, wavy pattern.

Selfie World - Selfie Church
Philippians 2:1-4
August 11, 2019

According to Google statistics, over 93 million selfies are taken per day. Google also reported that 10 selfies are posted to Instagram every 10 seconds on Android devices alone (that doesn't include the iPhone). One research firm stated that every third photo taken by those aged 18-34 is a selfie. Another firm said that the average millennial will take 25,700 selfies in their lifetime. We live in a selfie world.

I. The Resources of a Selfless Church

A. Our Upward Resources (Positional)

Philippians 2:1a(NKJV) Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ...

B. Our Inward Resources (Personal)

Philippians 2:1b (NKJV) Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love...

C. Our Outward Resources (Relational)

1. The fellowship of the Spirit

Philippians 2:1c (NKJV) Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit...

Takeaway:

In essentials, unity, in non-essentials, liberty, and in all things, love.

2. The fellowship of emotions

Philippians 2:1d (NKJV) Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy.

II. The Results of a Selfless Church

A. Personal benefits

Philippians 2:2a (NKJV) Fulfill my joy...

B. Practical benefits

Philippians 2:2b (NKJV) Fulfill my joy by being like-minded...

Connecting the “if’s”:

The main thrust of what the apostle is saying is this: *if* then you receive any help or encouragement or comfort from your vital union with Christ, and *if* the love of Christ toward you does at all provide you with an incentive for action, *if*, moreover, you are at all rejoicing in the marvelous Spirit-fellowship, and *if* you have any experience of the tender mercy and compassion of Christ, then prove your gratitude for all this by loving your brothers and sisters at home.

III. The Restraints of a Selfless Church

A. No strife

Philippians 2:3a (NKJV) Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit...

Takeaway:

Paul challenged each one that they were not to do anything through selfish ambition or conceit. This is a warning against a competitive, selfish spirit. Selfish ambition is a work of the flesh, according to Galatians 5:20, and is behind the petty squabbles and fights in so many churches today.

J. Oswald Sanders:

“Nothing is more distasteful to God than self-conceit. This first and fundamental sin in essence aims at enthroning self at the expense of God.... Pride is a sin of whose presence its victim is least conscious.... If we are honest, when we measure ourselves by the life of our Lord who humbled Himself even to death on a cross, we cannot but be overwhelmed with the tawdriness and shabbiness, and even the vileness, of our hearts.”

B. No superiority

Philippians 2:3b (NKJV) ...but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.

C. No self-seeking

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

Peter Drucker:

“The man who focuses on efforts and who stresses his downward authority is a subordinate, no matter how exalted his title and rank. But the man who focuses on contribution and who takes responsibility for results, no matter how junior, is in the most literal sense of the phrase, top management.”