



DAY 2

KODI SELLS

Greetings Victory family. I hope everyone had a blessed New Year and great start and launch into 2024! I pray that this new year is such a powerful and mighty year of holy encounter with the Spirit of God. I declare His presence would be at work in and throughout your life both day and night!

Thank you for joining me on day two of our January seven day fast. I know this is just the starting line, but I encourage you to keep submitting yourselves into humility unto the Lord. Allow the Holy Spirit to show you areas in your life to continue to prune, cutoff, or close down. Give Him full access to change, mold, and reshape your ways of thinking. Reform your heart posture in this new season. He is SO worth it, and He is our eternal reward!!

Philippians

¹ Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? ² Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose. ³ Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. ⁵ 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. 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."

I wanted to dive into Philippians today so that we as a body would be called higher. Don't think of "higher calling" in the natural, but stay with me in the Spirit. Our higher calling is exemplified in Christ or to be like Christ. In verses 2-5 it outlines exactly what that calling should be.

We as the body should be agreeable, working together, and unified in one passion and heart. We are called to tear down pride and selfishness in our own selves before confronting the same in the lives of those around us.

One of the big keys here is in the middle of verse 3, "Be humble" putting others as more important than ourselves. It is so easy to be distracted today by prioritizing our own interests, callings, and giftings ahead of others. We also fail to realize that by instilling, building up, or strengthening the character of those around us, we in turn will be fulfilled in greater joy by seeing God's kingdom at hand, expanding and increasing. This allows growth and maturity to develop as byproducts of our humility and servanthood. This same principle also deepens relationship in community and fortifies your leadership skills.

Humility is hard; sometimes it's extremely hard! However, Jesus didn't call us to do just the easy simple things. He called us to the greater things! Remember earlier I said we are to have a "higher calling"? Guess what, That calling is through humility.

In Matthew 20:16 (NLT) it says, "So those who are last now will be first then, and those who are first will be last."

Jesus is the perfect example for a life lived last and to a higher calling. He humbled himself and became human. Jesus gave up His divine glory to become a servant. He did not come in that time triumphantly or majestically out of the heavens. He also did not come in that time forcing every knee to bow before Him. NO, He came onto the scene and the same playing field as the rest of us. He disciplined those around Him and had an authentic love for His people. He endured worldly wickedness and even died upon a cross as a criminal. Jesus through humility became last. Then and only then because of His example of obedience, God honored that humility and gave Jesus first place!! This is just as it says in verse 9, "Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names."

I want to challenge you this week by doing these few but powerful activation steps of humility:

- Philippians 2:4 "Abandon every display of selfishness"
- Philippians 2:4 "Possess a greater concern for what matters to others instead of your own interests"
- Philippians 2:2 "Be together in perfect unity and united in one passion and love"
- Philippians 2:3 "Be free from pride-filled opinions, and don't allow self-promotion to hide in your hearts"

Humility is defined in the Webster's Dictionary as freedom from pride or arrogance. This week let all pride and arrogance wash away and allow the lowliness of humility activate within you. Let's pray together.....

I love you Victory family. Have a fantastic week, and I'll see you on Saturday, as we celebrate together what the Lord has done throughout this fast!