

## Phil 2:5-11

### Last Week:

- if you know Jesus – responded to gospel truth ...
- continue to be transformed by
  - being like minded, having same love, one in spirit and of one mind
  - check your motives
  - put others before self
- Paul concerned about continued growth and unity of the body – and that which destroys unity and growth

***“In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”***

# 1. Mindset Matters

- attitude is apparent
- world celebrates rebellious, arrogant, prideful attitudes
- mindset or attitude seen clearly in us

## a) In your relationships.....

- just told to seek unity, check motives, put others 1<sup>st</sup>, now
- get your mindset fixed first – important to relationship
- Rom 12:2 ***“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”***

## 2. Step One – Humility

- Jesus shows us what the mindset needs to be
- a) Not holding on to what I have or am entitled to!
  - vs. 6 – very nature God – fully God
  - all knowing, all powerful, creator, Holy
  - Matthew 26:53-54 – ability surrendered
  - ‘consider equality something to be grasped’
    - submission in trinity
    - term grasped
    - will of the Father Mattered

## b) Accepted Limitations

- nature of a servant – looking after others, serving creation, rejected by others
- washing feet, allowing critics to speak, quiet while condemned, being abused and killed
- form of a man – cared for by 1<sup>st</sup> time parents, lowly birth, limited by need for food, sleep, tempted by human desires and dreams
- willingly gave up what was rightfully his to accept what was ours

\* interesting to note that the mindset (attitude) of humility was necessary for the next step

## 2. Step 2 – Obedience

- this is a word that generates great resistance
- mostly comes from pride, self, doing it MY WAY
- ‘obedient to death on a cross’
- 2 things Jesus could not do before his humanity
  - suffer
  - die
- Jesus in Garden – ‘if there be any way, take this cup from me, but not my will – yours be done.’
- Jesus teaching us to pray – ‘thy kingdom come, thy will be done...’

- don't miss the form of death – cross
  - reserved for guilty – worst of the worst
  - shameful, painful, public, horrific, without mercy
  - undeserved by Jesus – suffered for us
- Jesus to Disciples in John – if you love me – obey my commands
- obedience is not difficult when the attitude or mindset is right. When we see clearly – we can choose well.

### 3. Exalted By The Father 9-11

- Jesus says in Matt. 23:12 ***“For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”***

- Father loves to exalt the humble:

- Psalm 138:6 ***“Though the LORD is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly;”***

- Isaiah 57:15 ***“For this is what the high and exalted One says— he who lives forever, whose name is holy: “I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite.”***



- James 4:10 ***“Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.”***
- Name above any other
- All things divine and earthly will bow before Jesus
- All will acknowledge the truth

## So What

### 1. Check Your Mindset – Attitude

- have you accepted the worlds standard or God's?
- in relationships are you following Jesus example
- are you willing to become a servant
- are you willing to let go of things, status, comfort, health, safety, - for the sake of God's mission

### 2. Are You a Humble Person

- do you worry about what others think, status, others knowing of your sacrifice, getting the credit?
- are you willing to repent of pride, arrogance, and ask God for help to be humble – Matt 5

### 3. Are You Obedient to the Truth

- are you willing to do what Jesus asks
- do you love enough to obey
- are you learning from Jesus example for us

### 4. Are You Willing to Let God Exalt

- Do you trust Him to judge, reward, lift you up