

THIS MIND IN YOU

PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11

COMMUNITY@GROUP

OUTLINE & SUMMARY

Introduction

The context is a call to unity. While the Philippian church was generally healthy, some were at odds with each other. Paul called them to be of one mind - the mind of Christ, then describes what that looks like.

Verses 1-4 • Paul's appeal for unity continues from 1:27. Note the emphasis on all having the *same mind, being like-minded, with one mind*.

Verses 5-8 • Think like Jesus!

Using some of the loftiest ideas ever thought, conveyed by some of the most eloquent words ever penned, Paul describes the *actions* Jesus' mind produced. He left the highest place to enter the lowest, all so that the once-thwarted purposes of His Father could be restored and we could gain heaven.

Verses 9-11 • Because Jesus humbled Himself to complete the Father's will, He is exalted back to the highest place. One day, all creation will acknowledge Who and What He is.

FOR THE GROUP

Introduction

What does humility look and sound like?

Why is unity important for Christians?

What are the limits to unity?

What does this call to like-mindedness say to how closely we hold our opinions?

What role do *emotions* play in discussions when exchanging opinions with others who hold a different view?

The key to changing emotions is *thoughts*, the mind. What thoughts/truths do we need to hold front and center in our relationships with others to preserve unity?

This is a call to humility; radical and self-sacrificing.

Keeping the context in mind (Paul's call to unity), what does thinking like Jesus mean? He obviously isn't calling for people to *literally die* for others. Martyrdom isn't in view here. What is?

What *attitude* is Paul calling for us to take with one another? More importantly, what ought this attitude LOOK AND SOUND LIKE in terms of the way we treat one another?

"You can tell if someone is really a servant or not by how they react when they are treated like one."

What does that mean and what are the practical implications?

James 4:10 says, "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up."

What are some practical ways to humble yourself?