

JOURNEY

— CHURCH TAMPA —

D O W N T O W N



PHILIPPIANS

Philippians 2:5-11

5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,
6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, **7** but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. **8** And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. **9** Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, **10** so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, **11** and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Humility of Christ



Do not imagine that if you meet a really humble man he will be what most people call 'humble' nowadays: he will not be a sort of greasy, smarmy person, who is always telling you that, of course, he is nobody. Probably all you will think about him is that he seemed a cheerful, intelligent chap who took a real interest in what you said to him. If you do dislike him it will be because you feel a little envious of anyone who seems to enjoy life so easily. He will not be thinking about humility: he will not be thinking about himself at all.

If anyone would like to acquire humility, I can, I think, tell him the first step. The first step is to realise that one is proud. And a biggish step, too. At least, nothing whatever can be done before it. If you think you are not conceited, it means you are very conceited indeed.

- CS Lewis



Knowing the humility of Christ

Emptied of status

-

Emptied of own will

-

Emptied of self-interest



The Humility of Christ:
Emptied of status



Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,
⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality
with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- Jesus gave up the benefits of divinity



- Jesus gave up the benefits of divinity
- Jesus gave up the glory that He deserved



- Jesus gave up the benefits of divinity
- Jesus gave up the glory that He deserved
- Jesus gave up his rights



But we must continue to affirm the uniqueness and finality of Jesus Christ. For he is unique in his incarnation (the one and only God-man); unique in his atonement (only he has died for the sins of the world); and unique in his resurrection (only he has conquered death). And since in no other person but Jesus of Nazareth did God first become human (in his birth), then bear our sins (in his death), and then triumph over death (in his resurrection), he is uniquely competent to save sinners. Nobody else possesses his qualifications. So we may talk about Alexander the Great, Charles the Great and Napoleon the Great, but not Jesus the Great. He is not the Great—he is the Only. There is nobody like him. He has no rival and no successor.

- John Stott



We when empty ourselves of concern for our own status, only then can we be filled with the status that God gives.



The Humility of Christ:
Emptying of own will



Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,
⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with
God a thing to be grasped,⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of
a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in
human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point
of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,¹⁰ so that at
the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and
under the earth,¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

- Jesus followed God's will in humble obedience



- Jesus followed God's will in humble obedience
- Jesus was obedient to death, to accomplish something great



- Jesus followed God's will in humble obedience
- Jesus followed God's timing
- Jesus was obedient to death, to accomplish something great



When we empty ourselves of our own will, we join with God in the seeking the renewal and restoration of all things.



At the heart of Christian ethic is humility; at the heart of its parodies, pride. Different roads with different destinations, and the destinations color the character of those who travel by them.

- N.T. Wright



The Humility of Christ:
Emptied of self-interest



Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,
⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with
God a thing to be grasped,⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of
a servant, being born in the likeness of men.⁸ And being found in
human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point
of death, even death on a cross.⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,¹⁰ so that at
the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and
under the earth,¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Submission is doing what others think best. It is humbly setting aside our own ideas as supreme and our own will as ultimate, totally eliminating self-promotion. It is the highest level of fellowship. It applies the cross in our own lives, freeing us of the burden of having our own way and being all wise in our own eyes.

- Dallas Willard



- Jesus poured himself out for others



- Jesus poured himself out for others
- Jesus sacrificed for the flourishing of others



- Jesus poured himself out for others
- Jesus sacrificed for the flourishing of others
- Jesus was torn down that we might be built up



To empty ourselves of self-interest we can then be filled with a heart interested in others and in doing so develop genuine love for others.



We must follow in Christ's footsteps.





PHILIPPIANS

The true meaning of love one's neighbor is not that it is a command from God which we are to fulfill, but that through it and in it we meet God.

- Martin Buber



“We cannot avoid using power, cannot escape the compulsion to afflict the world, so let us, cautious in diction and mighty in contradiction, love powerfully.”

- Martin Buber



You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

Romans 8:9



There is nothing we have that we have not received; all we have and are belong to God bought with the blood of Jesus.

To spend everything on ourselves, and to give without sacrifice is the way of the world that the Father cannot abide.

But generosity is the way of those who call Christ their Lord; who love him with free hearts, and serve him with renewed minds; who withstand the delusion of riches that chokes the word; whose hearts are in heaven, and not on earth.

We are determined to increase in generosity until it can be said that there is no needy person among us.

We are determined to be faithful stewards of such a little thing as money that Christ may trust us with true riches.

Above all things, we are determined to be generous because our Father is generous.

It is the delight of His daughters and sons to share their Father's traits, and to show what He is like to all the world.