

PART TWO

Philippians 2:1-4 // September 11



JOY IN ALL SEASONS

A SERMON SERIES IN PHILIPPIANS

Prepare Your Heart & Mind

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you can recall, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to guide you in your time.



Reflect/Connect

- Use these questions for a time of individual reflection or to connect with others in meaningful conversation.

Grow in the Word

- These questions are designed as a guide for individual study and to foster spiritual conversation with a group of people.

REFLECT/CONNECT

- In what ways were you encouraged by last week's study?
- What are some obstacles to unity among any group of people?
- On the other hand, what are some things that help a group of people unite?

GROW IN THE WORD

Paul presented a conditional exhortation to the Philippians: if they had experienced any benefit from their relationship with Jesus, then Paul urged them to complete his joy by pursuing unity in mind, heart, and purpose (v. 1-2).

- What is the primary requirement for achieving the type of unity Paul called for in these verses? See also John 15:5-13.
- What are the benefits that Paul assumed to be present realities for the Philippians? Describe a time when you experienced one of the benefits Paul listed.
- What attitudes, thoughts, actions, or emotions might you hold on to that prevent you from greater unity with other believers?

The Philippians were commanded to center their behavior on the idea that others were at least as important as themselves. Paul called this attitude humility (v. 3-4).

- Why was this message so timely for the Philippians? See Philippians 1:15-17; 1:28-30; 4:2-3.
- What do you think our society considers more important: self-centeredness or selflessness? Compare your thoughts with the biblical perspective as seen here and in Romans 12:10; 1 Peter 5:5-6.

GROW IN THE WORD

- How would you describe the relationship between unity and humility in these verses?

Paul called on the Philippians to reflect on the benefits of their union with Jesus and to pursue unity with one another. To follow through, the Philippians had to put off selfish ambition and put on humility.

- How have you seen selfish ambition, conceit, or self-centeredness cause division between people whether at home, in your workplaces, communities, or churches?

- In what ways do you want your attitude or perspective towards others to change in light of these verses?

SERIES RESOURCES

OVERVIEW: PHILIPPIANS

An animated video by the Bible Project provides a thorough overview of the book of Philippians. The video offers a great summary of the book while emphasizing that every Christian's story can be an expression of Jesus' ultimate story.

- <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/philippians/>

INTRODUCTION TO PHILIPPIANS

A fundamental introduction to the book of Philippians from the ESV Study Bible. Get a quick synopsis of the book's background to help you gain a better understanding of the book of Philippians as a whole.

- <https://www.esv.org/resources/esv-global-study-bible/introduction-to-philippians/>

PHILIPPIANS: A COMMENTARY BY THE GOSPEL COALITION

A free, downloadable commentary of the entire book of Philippians. This commentary offers background material and a section-by-section commentary of the entire book.

- <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/commentary/philippians/>

BE JOYFUL: EVEN WHEN THINGS GO WRONG, YOU CAN HAVE JOY BY WARREN WIERSBE

A timeless resource by one of this generation's most trusted teachers, Be Joyful gives readers invaluable insights into the history, meaning, and context of Philippians. This new version includes study questions at the end of each chapter to aid readers in reflection and application.

- https://www.amazon.com/Be-Joyful-Philippians-Things-Commentary-ebook/dp/B005MT7WSC/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=1659553546&sr=1-19

LIFE LESSONS FROM PHILIPPIANS: GUIDE TO JOY BY MAX LUCADO

A guide through the book of Philippians by pastor and author Max Lucado that offers its readers thoughtful questions, encouraging stories, and reflections to dig deeper into God's Word. Lucado unpacks Paul's letter to the young church emphasizing Paul's focus on living a life full of joy, peace, and contentment even in the midst of trouble.

- https://www.amazon.com/Life-Lessons-Philippians-Max-Lucado-ebook/dp/B077Y2F619/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=1659553546&sr=1-18