

SERMON OUTLINE | Philippians 2:5-11

Godly Suffering and the Mind of Christ

December 10, 2023

INTRODUCTION

THE NATURE OF PAUL'S LIFE

TO THE PHILIPPIAN CHURCH - SUFFER WITH JOY

THE HOPE OF GLORY - THE CHRIST HYMN (2:5-11)

The Mind of Christ (v. 5)

The First Advent - Christ's Humiliation (vs. 6-8)

The Second Advent - Christ's Exaltation (vs. 9-11)

CONCLUSION

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

In order to behave as citizens worthy of the gospel of Christ, we need the mind of Christ. Namely, we must be fully convinced of the supreme worth of Christ and sharing in the hope of future glory together with him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. What does Philippians 2:5-11 teach you about the mission of Christ in his first advent? What did he accomplish?
3. What does Philippians 2:5-11 teach you about the exaltation of Christ? How does this help us with suffering?
4. Have you experienced suffering related to the gospel or your association with Christ? In what form?
5. Reflect on a time when God did something amazing you weren't expecting as a result of suffering.
6. Do you tend to respond sinfully to suffering? Do you use suffering as an excuse for sinful behavior toward others, or for indulging sinful desires or attitudes?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

7. Read Philippians and reflect on what Paul's statements say about the worth of Christ (e.g., 1:18, 21, 23; 2:17).
8. Memorize these passages. Better yet, memorize the book of Philippians.
9. Work intentionally to become increasingly consumed by the worth of Christ. Ask someone else how they're doing this.
10. Journal your thoughts and reactions to suffering this week or this month and look for patterns of unbelief to root out. Replace these with promises from Philippians.
11. Look for opportunity to serve or proclaim Christ next time you're mistreated or things don't go your way.
12. Pray for family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors to see they are hopelessly lost in Adam and set their hope on Christ. Tell them the truth about Christ.

PRAYER POINTS

13. Adoration. Pour out praise that Christ humbled himself by becoming man and that he is now exalted at the Father's side.
14. Confession. Confess responses of grumbling, cynicism, anger, self-pity, or withdrawal to suffering and unmet expectations.
15. Thanksgiving. Give thanks that Christ was obedient to the point of death for your sake. Thank God that if your hope is in Christ, you will one day be glorified with Him.
16. Supplication. Ask for the mind of Christ in our Church. Pray that we would grow to be consumed by the worth of Christ, ready to suffer any cost if it brings us more of Him and brings Him more glory. Ask God to free us from bondage to competing desires and give us faith in the certain hope of glory.