

**NPBC Bible Study Wednesday Evening**  
**Week Five: February 10, 2021**  
**Philippians (Jo Saxton Right Now Media)**

**Philippians Chapter 2 (NIV)**

**Imitating Christ's Humility**

**2** Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,<sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.<sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves,<sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

**Question:**

**Looking at verse 1, what unites the church?**

<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature<sup>[a]</sup> God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;  
<sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature<sup>[b]</sup> of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.

<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him to the highest place  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup> and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**Question:**

**What aspects of Jesus's character do you see? Which of these aspects stands out to you the most?**

**Why?**

**Do Everything Without Grumbling**

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,<sup>13</sup> for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

<sup>14</sup> Do everything without grumbling or arguing,<sup>15</sup> so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.”<sup>16</sup> Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky<sup>17</sup> as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain.<sup>18</sup> But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you.<sup>19</sup> So you too should be glad and rejoice with me.

**Question:**

**What does it mean to “work out your salvation”? In what ways is it connected to what we talked about last week?**

**What actions “shine” the truth to the outside world? What could it look like for your church to “shine” in your town or city?**

**Timothy and Epaphroditus**

<sup>19</sup> I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you.<sup>20</sup> I have no one else like him, who will show genuine concern for your welfare.<sup>21</sup> For everyone looks out for their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.<sup>22</sup> But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel.<sup>23</sup> I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see how things go with me.<sup>24</sup> And I am confident in the Lord that I myself will come soon.

<sup>25</sup> But I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, co-worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs.<sup>26</sup> For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill.<sup>27</sup> Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow.<sup>28</sup> Therefore I am all the more eager to send him, so that when you see him again you may be glad and I may have less anxiety.<sup>29</sup> So then, welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honor people like him,<sup>30</sup> because he almost died for the work of Christ. He risked his life to make up for the help you yourselves could not give me.

**Question:**

**What does it mean to you that you’re a “living example” of following Jesus? What kind of example are you setting?**