

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Philippians 2:1-4

These questions are for the **November 10, 2024** message, “JOY IN CHRIST: unwavering confidence in uncertain times – **Jesus: Unity & Humility, Part 1.**” Please read the sermon passage (Philippians 2:1-11) together out loud. Then, focus on verses 1-4 for this discussion.

Passage Outline

In Christ, miraculous unity...is possible...and purposeful...when we forget ourselves...and count others as more significant.

1. ...is possible... (1)
 - A. Encouragement: we have strength because we are solely in Christ
 - B. Comfort from Love: Christ’s love
 - C. Participation in the spirit: we have God in us with the church
 - D. Affection and Sympathy: God’s heartfelt affection and sympathy
2. ...and purposeful... (2)
 - A. Of the same mind: unified by the Gospel message
 - B. Having the same love: unified in Christ’s love
 - C. Being of full accord and of one mind: in complete unity
3. ...when we forget about ourselves... (3a)
 - A. Selfish ambition: often hidden from others
 - B. Conceit: we must forget ourselves and prioritize others
4. ...and count others as more significant (3b-4).
 - A. In humility count others more significant than yourselves: elevate others
 - B. Look also to the interests of others: put the needs of others ahead of our own

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Pastor Jon pointed out that, in Philippians 2:1, the author notes that we are given encouragement, meaning that we have been “offered and provided strength” in Christ. What are some ways that you receive encouragement, or strength in Christ?
2. We are also given comfort from Christ’s love. Pastor Jon likened that love to the unconditional acceptance that comes with adoption—being given a new name and a place to belong. What are some benefits of creating a church culture where its members truly belong? What are some challenges that make it difficult to create that kind of culture?
3. Pastor Jon mentioned that having unity doesn’t necessarily mean that we are uniform, or that we all think the same way. How is unity possible, even during times of potential disagreement? How does unity among those in the church prove “the glory and beauty of Jesus to people who are not yet convinced?”
4. What does it mean to be humble as we engage others in the church?
5. According to Pastor Jon, humility isn’t thinking less of ourselves—it’s thinking of ourselves less. What does it mean to “think of ourselves less” in our relationships?
6. How does participating actively in your life group allow you to look to the interests of others? How can you actively put the needs of others first, even as your group is meeting?