

LEARN

Read Philippians 2:1-11 together. What stands out in the text and from the sermon on Sunday as helpful, encouraging, challenging, etc.?

What is the difference between Optimism and Biblical Hope?

(Optimism - calculates best outcome of circumstances. Hope transcends reality, clings to Jesus, lives humbly trusting God.)

How would you explain the importance of verses 6-11 to someone desiring a greater understanding of the person and work of Jesus?

(Example: Jesus is God who became man, humbled himself for our sake, perfect obedience, died in our place, raised and exalted by the Father)

PRACTICE

How do you need to "practically put Christ at the center" of your year and your life? Is there one specific area this would make the most immediate difference for you?

(Areas to bring up: Your schedule as it relates to Sundays and small group commitment; committing to consistent Bible reading, prayer, personal worship; finances; self-control; evangelism/outreach)

Is there a difficult relationship in your life for which you need ask God's help and power to demonstrate Christ-like humility? How will you seek to do it in 2019?

Fast forward to December of 2019. Suppose that as you look back on the year, you are able to praise God and can say you've lived it for God's glory. How did you get there? What evidence of change would you hope to point to that says you've lived for his glory?

(Miscellaneous examples: get to know neighbor and share gospel, serve someone in a way that demanded significant sacrifice, become a small group leader, repentance of sin, forgiving someone who hurt you, serve at church, do your job for God's glory and not merely money, deeper prayer life.)

CHANGE

Read verses 3-4 again together. 2 Questions to consider:

- Where are you prone to live selfishly?
- Who specifically is an "other" in your life that you need to consider as more important than yourself?

Pray together for God to change your heart in these areas and to be glorified in your life in 2019.