

“Joy In The Everyday: Life in the Exemplar”

Growth Group Guide

July 5, 2026

WELCOME *(Connecting with each other)*

Isn't it interesting that Philippians 2:6-11 was likely a hymn, song, or poem of the early church? Was it something they sang joyfully every week, these powerful words of worship for Jesus our Lord? What kind of impact do you think recounting these words over and over together in worship might of had on the early church? Do you have a favorite name for Jesus?

WORSHIP THROUGH PRAYER *(Connecting with God)*

Open in prayer inviting the Spirit to guide your discussion. Give God praise for the powerful life of Jesus, our very Life and our saving Lord and King.

Philippians 2:9-11 NIV.

“Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

WORD *(Letting God speak to us)*

1. **Read Philippians 2:5-8.** In v5, Paul says we are to have the same mindset (attitude) as Jesus. From the previous messages, what mindset (motive and actions) did we find Jesus modeling for us? (Hint: One Big Ideas.)
2. **Read Philippians 2:9-11.** Here we find what Jesus gained through the way He lived His life. Everything listed in these verses, God did for Jesus. What did God do for Him?
3. **Read Galatians 1:1, Ephesians 1:20, and Isaiah 45:22-23.** How do these verses add to what you found in Philippians 2:9-11?
4. Let's take a look at three names Jesus has: 1) Jesus - given at his birth, 2) Christ - a title meaning “Chosen One”, and 3) Lord - a title of authority and power. Jesus and Christ speak to His ability to save, Lord to His authority and power to rule. Jesus was made Lord because God exalted Him to this position. **Read Acts 2:32-36 ESV.** What do you notice about Jesus, Christ, and Lord in these verses?
5. **Read Romans 10:13 ESV.** Everyone will confess that Jesus is Lord, but not everyone will call on Jesus for salvation. If we've given ourselves to Him as Savior, we are saved, but that doesn't necessarily mean we've bowed and confessed Him to be our Lord. If this is the case, what source are we living from (flesh or Spirit)? Does a Christian doing what you reviewed in question 1 show they have taken Jesus as their Savior and Lord? If so how?
6. **Read Luke 14:11, James 4:10, and 1 Peter 5:6-7.** In Philippians we see that Jesus is exalted. Based on these verses who else can be exalted? What's the path to exaltation?

7. What ways do we seek to exalt ourselves without humility? Who began this way of living? What source is it linked to (flesh or Spirit)?
8. **Read Galatians 2:20 and Romans 6:4-6.** If we follow Jesus' model, we will experientially be identified with Him. What things from these verses will we be identified with? What do these things provide for us?
9. **Read Ephesians 2:6 and 2 Peter 1:3.** These verses talk about things we will enjoy experientially now, in real time, when God finishes the process discussed in question 8. What enjoyable things do you find in these verses? Are they worth the way down to enjoy the way up? (Jesus' path up meant a path down first.)
10. At the end of Philippians 2:11, we see that Jesus' model brought glory to God the Father. His model is the typical model and is possible to be lived by every person who calls Jesus Savior. How does this change your perspective on what it is to bring glory to God the Father?

WALK *(Living out God's purposes)*

- ✓ **One Big Idea: When we entrust ourselves to God in dependence, He raises us up and empowers us to joyfully live the life we have in Jesus.** In Philippians 2:5-11, Paul shows us that Jesus' path to exaltation began with Him laying it all aside, humbling Himself under the Father, and choosing to live dependently. Following the cross the Father gave Him the name above every name, elevated His position, and crowned Him Lord. Jesus' path up meant His path first must go down. If we're honest, this isn't a path we like very much for ourselves. We like exaltation without humility. Paul, however, appeals to us to choose to adopt Jesus' attitude and mode-of-operation as our own because it's our way to shed the flesh to live predominantly from the Spirit. Study these verses: Luke 14:11, James 4:10, and 1 Peter 5:6-7. Ask God to show you the path of joy as you embrace your Life IN the Exemplar, where down comes before up, and flesh no longer gets the predominant use because the Spirit is your main source for living. Your life bringing glory to God. All praise and glory to Him!

WORLD *(Embracing God's heart for others)*

Boise Bible College, even though it is summer, has ongoing activities for professors and staff. Their camp reps will travel many miles to serve in camps and professors and staff are traveling, speaking, teaching, and recruiting as well. Would you pray for safe travels, great interactions, and effective recruiting of students who are committed to a lifetime of discipleship and open to ministry as a vocation? Also, pray for all conferences being held on campus this summer as God continues to equip servant leaders who build up the church to advance the Gospel worldwide. (June 23, 2026, Update Letter.)

“And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. (Acts 6:7 ESV.)”

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