**The Joy of Christian Unity**

**Text**: Phil. 2:1-11

Key Verse: 2:2 – **“**fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.”

Unity Defined – the state of being one, joined , or agreement. You share same purpose & goal.

Intro to Lesson:

* Jesus prayed for unity (Jn. 17:11; 17:21-23)
  + Jesus wanted complete unity!
* Reason’s Christian Unity is Important:
  + So he world might believe (Jn. 17:21)
  + So the world will know you love them (17:23)
  + (Rom. 15:5-6) – So you may with one voice glorify God.
* Paul’s Instructions about Unity:
  + Eph. 4:1-3 – You are to walk with lowliness, gentleness, longsuffering, & bear with one another in love for what reason?
    - V.3- to keep the unity of the Spirt…
      * V. 7-12 – God has given each Christian different gifts, and their exercise in the edification of the church leads to more and more unity.
        + V. 13 – “till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God…”
* Maintain this same thought in Phil. 2:2 (Read Phil. 2:1-11)
  + How do we fulfil Paul’s joy?
    - Being like-minded (v.3)
    - same love (v.3)
    - one accord (v.3)
    - one mind (v.3)
    - Practice humility (v.4-8)
* How was Christ humble? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 7-8)

**How to Cultivate Humility:**

* Compare yourself only to Jesus (Eph. 4:13)
* Choose to Serve Others (Jn. 13:5, 14)
* Don’t Try to Show Out for Others (Matt. 23:27-28)
* Be Grateful (1 Thess. 5:18; Rom. 11:36)
* Be Willing to Be Last (Matt. 20:16)
* Learn to Accept Critical Feedback (Prov. 27:17)
* Guard Your Mouth (James 1:19)

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Unity - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* Jesus \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for unity (Jn. 17:11; 17:21-23)
  + Jesus wanted \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ unity!
* Reason’s Christian Unity is Important:
  + So he world might \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Jn. 17:21)
  + So the world will know you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them (17:23)
  + (Rom. 15:5-6) – So you may with one voice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God.
* Paul’s Instructions about Unity:
  + Eph. 4:1-3 – You are to walk with lowliness, gentleness, longsuffering, & bear with one another in love for what reason?
    - V.3- to keep the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirt…
    - V. 13 – “till we all come to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and of the knowledge of the Son of God…”
* Maintain this same thought in Phil. 2:2 (Read Phil. 2:1-11)
  + How do we fulfil Paul’s joy? (5 things)
* How was Christ humble? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**How to Cultivate Humility:**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ yourself only to Jesus (Eph. 4:13)
* Choose to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Others (Jn. 13:5, 14)
* Don’t Try to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Out for Others (Matt. 23:27-28)
* Be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Thess. 5:18; Rom. 11:36)
* Be Willing to Be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 20:16)
* Learn to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Critical Feedback (Prov. 27:17)
* Guard Your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (James 1:19)