

Philippians 2:5-11

5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross! 9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

➤ **Crucify entitlement (v. 6)**

Mark 8:35-36

35 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. 36 What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?

➤ **Give yourself away (v. 7)**

Phase 1 – The Essentials: the struggle to get our lives together

Learning how to navigate the core areas of your life – Who am I? What do I stand for?
(your 20's into your mid-30's)

Phase 2 – The Maturing: the struggle to give our lives away

We become more concerned with life beyond us than with ourselves –How can I give my life away more purely and generously?

“When one reaches the highest degree of human maturity, one has only one question left:
How can I be helpful?” – Teresa of Avila
(your mid-30's to your mid-60's)

Phase 3 – The Ending: the struggle to give our deaths away

Matthew 20:26

...whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant

Mark 10:45

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

“Most people over the age of eighty are either the best or the worst people you know...most of them are either the most gracious, happy, grateful, patient, loving, self-giving people you know, just happy to be alive and sitting in the room with you, *or* the most bitter, manipulative, spiteful, people you know, oozing emotional poison into their family lines and reveling in others' pain. Sure, some are in the middle of the bell curve, but most are noticeably to one side.” – John Mark Comer

➤ **Play the long game (v. 8-11)**



eucatastrophe = a sudden, unexpected turn in the story, a ray of goodness breaks through the darkness, what looked like certain disaster becomes a glorious victory

NEXT STEPS

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