

Week 3: The Way of Jesus

In a world that encourages us to pursue our own happiness, success, and recognition, Paul reminds us that true joy is found in Jesus, not in our circumstances. In Philippians 1:27–2:11, we're challenged to pursue unity, put aside selfish ambition, and humbly consider others more important than ourselves. When we surrender our personal preferences and focus on serving others, we become united around a greater mission—helping people find and follow Jesus. Jesus is our perfect example of humility, choosing to become a servant and sacrificing His life for us. When we adopt the attitude of Christ and put others before ourselves, we discover that joy grows where humility lives.

Discussion Questions:

1. What's the difference between happiness that depends on our circumstances and the lasting joy we find in Jesus? How have you experienced that difference in your own life?

2. Philippians 1:27 calls us to stand firm together for the faith of the gospel. How can pride, personal preferences, or selfish ambition threaten unity in our relationships or within the church?

3. Philippians 2:3–4 challenges us to consider others more important than ourselves. Why is this so difficult, and what might it look like practically in your marriage, family, workplace, or friendships?

4. Read Philippians 2:5–11 and Mark 10:43–45. What stands out to you most about the humility of Jesus, and how does His example challenge the world's definition of greatness?

5. Think of one person or relationship where you've struggled to put someone else's needs or interests ahead of your own. What's one specific way you can demonstrate Christlike humility toward that person this week?