

# “STAYING ON KEY”

Philippians 2:5-11 - Pastor Bruce French

## GETTING JOY

1. Joy comes through divine partnerships. Phil. 1:4-5
2. Joy comes through loving without walls. Phil. 1:9
3. Joy comes through seeing problems as possibilities. Phil. 1:18
4. Joy comes through an assurance of a secure future. Phil. 1:21
5. Joy comes through a God-honoring conduct. Phil. 1:27
6. Joy comes through loving relationships. Phil. 2:3-4

## When are our relationships harmonious?

1. Our relationships are harmonious when we \_\_\_\_\_

Christ's \_\_\_\_\_. Phil. 2:5-8

a. Christ surrendered his \_\_\_\_\_. Phil. 2:6

b. Christ served his \_\_\_\_\_. Phil. 2:7

c. Christ obeyed his \_\_\_\_\_. Phil. 2:8

**ACTION:** Check your \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Our relationships are harmonious when we \_\_\_\_\_

Christ's \_\_\_\_\_. Phil. 2:9-11

a. Christ received \_\_\_\_\_. Phil. 2:9

b. Christ received \_\_\_\_\_. Phil. 2:10-11

**ACTION:** Check your \_\_\_\_\_.

## Take Home Truth

\_\_\_\_\_ attitudes invite \_\_\_\_\_ relationships.

Phil. 2:5-6

**ACTION:** Check your \_\_\_\_\_.

### Today's Core Practice:

**Jesus Christ** "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin – He suffered, was crucified and buried, but rose on the third day, after which He ascended into heaven where he sits at the Father's right hand." (from Hebrews 1:3)

**Today's Action:** Exercise the 3 actions every day this week.

## Deeper Connection Study

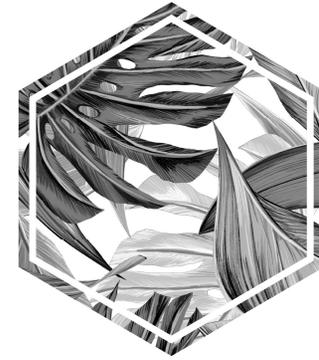
Paul extols Jesus as the greatest example of humility, sacrifice, and suffering. He shows how the mindset and actions of Christ provide a clarion call to the church to live in unity.

*Today's Core Belief discussed: Jesus Christ.*

### Read Philippians 2:5-11

1. How can you have the same mind or attitude as Christ (v. 5)?
2. What is mentioned about Jesus' deity and pre-existence (v. 6; cf. John 1:1-4; Col. 1:15-17; Heb. 1:1-3)? What does it mean that Jesus emptied himself (v. 7)? How can this be misunderstood or even twisted?
3. How do Jesus' actions demonstrate humility and concern for others (vv. 6-8)?
4. How is the magnitude of Jesus' humility seen in his obedience (v. 8)? How does the manner of his death highlight this?
5. What does Paul say about Jesus' exultation (vv. 9-11)? How has Jesus moved through the spectrum of the lowest low and the highest high?
6. How does Christ's submission, suffering, and sacrifice challenge you? How can you live like Jesus, and for Jesus, with the intent to give God glory?

**PRAYER TO THE POINT:** Praise God for the humility and exaltation of Christ! Pray for personal growth in humility that results in harmonious relationships and church unity.



# life is good.

## Finding Joy in Tough Times

**M**ost would agree that relationships take a lot of work and investment. Thus, the work of relationship takes time, it takes energy and it takes effort. Yet, even when a person makes this kind of investment, it is not a guarantee that the relationship will be healthy and strong. This can make a person question whether the effort is really worth it.

When the Apostle Paul wrote to the Philippians he was mindful that some were struggling to maintain their relationships within their church. The tension of trials was wearing them down and their patience was growing thin. Some were wondering if the effort of relationships was really worth it. Paul's divine insight led him to point to Christ as the example and motivator for the people in Philippi. Why should they put forth the effort? They should put forth the effort because Christ put forth the effort for them.

The same is true today. The reason a believer should put forth an effort in his or her personal relationship isn't for what he or she will get out of it, but because Christ put forth the effort to reach them. How about you, are you motivated to put forth an effort in your relationships?

