



#4 – Philippians

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FoothillsBibleChurch.org/sermons

Philippians

November 8, 2020

If Any...Then Love

Philippians 2:1-5

Philippians 2:1-5

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus

1 – What is the disease? – Selfishness & Conceit

Philippians 2:3-4

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit

Selfishness is the greatest curse of the human race. William E Gladstone

Almost every sinful action ever committed can be traced back to a selfish motive. It is a trait we hate in other people but justify in ourselves. Stephen Kendrick

Selfish ambition = hyper fighting for your way and your opinions

Conceit = empty glory



... do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit

- 1 "Give me that" Selfishness
- 2 "Justified" Selfishness
- 3 "Bargaining" Selfishness
- 4 "Prideful" Selfishness
- 5 "Protect what I've got" Selfishness

2 - The antidote – The Gospel

Philippians 2:1

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy

If any

- 1) If any Encouragement in Christ
- 2) If any Comfort from His love
- 3) If any Participation with the Spirit
- 4) If any Affection and Sympathy

You can't manage the disease of selfishness and conceit

You have an eternal supply of everything your heart needs in Jesus

Philippians 2:5

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus ...

3 – A Healthy Community

Philippians 2:2

... complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

The true obstacle within churches to oneness is self-centeredness

Growth Group Questions

If Any...Then Love

Sunday, November 8, 2020

FoothillsBibleChurch.org/growth-groups

Philippians 1:27-30

Prepare

Read: Philippians 2:1-5

Pray: Teach, convict, and empower us to live selflessly by looking to Jesus.

Connect

1. When was the last time you asked for "the manager" and why?

Discussion

1. What stuck with you most from this week's sermon?
2. Shawn mentioned five kinds of selfishness (Give me that, Justified, Bargaining, Prideful, Protect what I've got). Describe some ways you demonstrate these.
3. In the midst of difficulty, what heart-level beliefs cause you to turn toward self-service, rivalry or conceit?
4. What have you tried to make yourself more selfless?
 - a. How did those methods change your heart, if at all?
 - b. How do those methods demonstrate selfish ambition and conceit
5. How are (or could you be) cultivating "being in full accord and of one mind" with other Jesus followers?

Diving Deeper (Optional questions to go a little further)

1. Share how you have experienced the things mentioned in Philippians 2:1.
 - a. How do these experiences empower you to live out Paul's expectations in 2:2-4?
2. How has or could realizing your identity in Christ help you live selflessly?

Closing Prayer

1. Father, convict us when we are living for ourselves, clearly showing us what it means to look for the interests of others, and helping to empty ourselves to serve those around us. Give us your understanding of being in full accord and of one mind.
2. Continue to pray for the persecuted church. Pray for unity, strength, and peace from God through their trials.
3. Keep track of requests and celebrations from others in your G2 and pray for them.