

## Receiving the Mind of Christ

**Text:** Philippians 2:5-11

**Context** - Paul wrote his letter to the Philippians during a time of imprisonment, probably in Rome around AD 62. Using the central theme of “joy,” Paul’s letter encouraged them to grow in their faith.

### To receive the mind of Christ...

#### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ all desires to lord over others (vs. 5-6)

- A. Remarkably, Christ did not imagine that having “equality with God” (which he already possessed) should lead him to hold onto his privileges at all costs. It was not something to be grasped, to be kept and exploited for his own benefit or advantage. (ESV Study Bible)
- B. Though Christ had all the rights, privileges, and honors of deity—which He was worthy of and could never be disqualified from—His attitude was not to cling to those things or His position but to be willing to give them up for a season. (MacArthur Study Bible)

#### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ others through service (vs. 7)

- A. Jesus did not seek royal treatment but took the servant’s role.
- B. “If the eternal Son of God, your Savior and Lord, has not come to be served but to serve others, if he has given his soul for you and the deliverance of many, ... if he took the form of a servant, if he has become obedient to death, and the death on the cross, what then will you, O man, do with yourself?” (Martin Bucer written in 1523 AD)

#### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ yourself (vs. 8-11)

- A. “He who hung the earth is hanging. He who fixed the heavens in place has been fixed in place. He who laid the foundations of the universe has been laid on a tree. The Master has been profaned.” (Melito of Sardis written in AD 160)
- B. For by dying in this manner he not only was disgraced before men, but he was also cursed before God. Certainly such an example of humility should entirely overwhelm every human mind—it is completely beyond our ability to explain it with words according to its grandeur. (John Calvin)