

What Happens When You Stop Needing to Win?

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BIG IDEA

Because we are united with Christ, we are called to reflect His humility by putting others before ourselves and serving with the mindset of Jesus.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Philippians 2:1-4, Philippians 2:5-11, John 1:14, Hebrews 5:7-9, 2 Corinthians 5:21, John 13:13-17

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1. Paul mentions encouragement (Greek: Paraklesis) but there are many many affective changes that being united with Christ (Philippians 2:1) instigates. Cultivate an "impact list" of being united with Christ -- as it relates to your view of self, the world, others, eternity, etc. in light of this unity we share with the Son.
 2. Paul celebrates the work of God in the church at Philippi but raises the challenge to be like minded and to possess the same love. Why is this unity so important? Why is it difficult to achieve What's at stake?
 3. Consider Jesus who, though He had every right otherwise, chose to take the role of a servant. Who is He serving? Are there times in the gospels that are especially powerful illustrations of His servanthood? Are there occasions where He serves in a surprising way?
 4. This Sunday we celebrate Fathers. What are some of the best applications for Fathers to consider in Philippians 2:1-11?
 5. What are some of the challenges that a Father faces, and how does this passage both encourage and challenge Fathers to be godly? How can the church community support Fathers?
 6. As you consider your own calling, bearing in mind the unique ways that God has wired you according to His purpose (Ephesians 2:10), how do we balance using spiritual gifts that are unique and even "special" without overextending to use them for our own advantage?
 7. What does it mean that Jesus took on the very nature of a servant? How does this direct us to see ourselves and live in a world in need of a Savior?
 8. Read Matthew 20:25-28 and note the backwards nature of "being great" in the Kingdom of God. How does this challenge the world's definition of greatness?
 9. Prayerfully read through 1 Corinthians 1:18-31. How does this passage align with Philippians 2:1-11?