



THE MIND OF CHRIST AND THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Phil. 2:5-11

Phil. 2:5 **Let this mind be in you**, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

11 And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

I. THE PERCEPTION OF THE CONCEPT

Phil. 2:5 **Let this mind be in you**, which was also in Christ Jesus:

A. The Imperative – “Let this mind...” **Original Word:** φρονέω

Phil. 1:7, 2:2, 5, 3:15, 16, 19, 4:2, 10, Mt. 16:23, Rom. 12:3, 1 Cor. 13:11, Col. 3:2

How we think affects what we do! Mk. 7:21-22, Lu. 6:45, Prov. 4:23

B. The Influence – “...be in you...”

1. Have Fellowship with God, 2:6

a. Selflessness – 2:7 “...the form of a servant...” Mt. 23:11

b. Submission – 2:8a “...humbled himself...” Acts 20:19

c. Sacrifice – 2:8b “...obedient unto death...” Rom. 12:1-2

2. Having Favor of God, 2:9-11 “...to the glory of God the Father.” Phil. 1:11, 1 Cor. 4:5

C. The Imitation – “...which was also in Christ Jesus:” Rom. 6:4
1 Cor. 11:1 Phil. 3:17

II. THE PARTNERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION

As believers, in order to grow from the *perception of the concept* to the *partnership of the commission*, we must develop “the mind of Christ.” The “mind of Christ” was displayed through His incarnation, life, death and resurrection as **He fulfilled the will of His Father in during His lifetime.** Everything about the “mission of Christ” during His lifetime was centered upon doing the will of God. In the “model prayer,” the Lord Jesus taught us to pray...

Mt. 6:10 Thy kingdom come. **Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.**

He exhibited that principle when agonizing over going to Calvary!

Mt. 26:42 He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, **if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.**

When we properly understand and imitate His example, our lives begin to mimic His life. The Apostle Paul is the epitome of that.

A. The Fellowship in the Gospel

Phil. 1: 3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,
4 Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy,
5 For your **fellowship in the gospel** from the first day until now;
6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you **will perform** it until the day of Jesus Christ:
7 Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in **the defence and confirmation of the gospel**, ye all are partakers of my grace.

1. Remembrance with Appreciation, 1:3

- a. Paul was thankful, 1:3a – “I thank my God...”
- b. Paul was thoughtful, 1:3b – “...upon every remembrance of you,”

2. Remembrance with Admiration, 1:4-5

1:4 Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy,

5 For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;

- a. Paul prayed perpetually, 1:4a – “Always in every prayer of mine...”
- b. Paul prayed particularly, 1:4b – “...for you all...”
- c. Paul prayed pleasurably, 1:4c-5 – “...making my **request with joy**,”

Original Word: δέησις

Transliteration: deésis

Definition: request, supplication, prayer, entreaty.

Heart-felt petition, arising out of deep personal need (sense of lack, want) – implies a felt need that is personal and urgent. <http://biblehub.com/greek/1162.htm>

i. Remembering their fellowship, 1:5a – “For your **fellowship in the gospel...**”

Original Word: κοινῶνία

Transliteration: koinónia

Definition: (lit: partnership) (a) contributory help, participation, (b) sharing in, communion, (c) spiritual fellowship, a fellowship in the spirit – **properly, what is shared in common as the basis of fellowship (partnership, community).**

<http://biblehub.com/greek/2842.htm>

Rom. 15:26 For it hath **pleased them of Macedonia** and Achaia to make a certain **contribution** for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem.

2 Cor. 8:4 Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and *take upon us* the **fellowship** of the ministering to the saints.

2 Cor. 9:13 Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for *your* liberal **distribution** unto them, and unto all *men*;

Phil. 4:10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your **care** of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity. ...

14 Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did **communicate with** my affliction.

Original Word: συγκοινωνέω

Transliteration: sugkoinóneó

Definition: I am a partaker with, have fellowship with, **communicate**, am an accomplice in.

Properly, share with by jointly partaking; to participate with because closely identified with someone.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/4790.htm>

15 Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church **communicated** with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.

16 For even in Thessalonica **ye sent once and again unto my necessity.**

17 Not because I desire a gift: but **I desire fruit that may abound to your account.**

18 But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things *which were sent* from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

19 But **my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.**

ii. Remembering their faithfulness, 1:5b –
“...from the first day until now;”

1 Cor. 4:2 Moreover **it is required** in stewards, that a man
be found faithful.

Conclusion

Phil. 2:1 *If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,*

2 **Fulfil ye my joy**, that ye **be likeminded**, having the same love, *being of one accord, of one mind.*

3 *Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.*

4 *Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.*

14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings:

15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, **the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;**

16 **Holding forth the word of life;** that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.