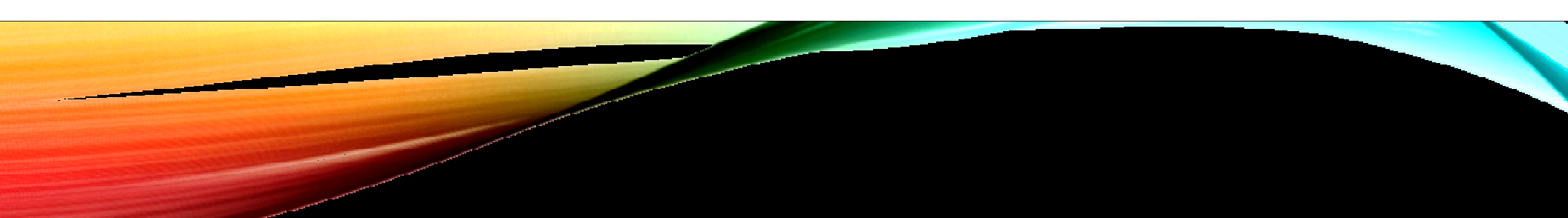




THE MIND OF CHRIST AND THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Phil. 2:1-5

“When Life Gets in the Way, Remember This”



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.

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

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...”

B. The Influence – “...be in you...”

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

A. The Fellowship in the Gospel, Phil. 1:3-7

B. The Force Within the Gospel, Phil. 1:9-11

C. The Fall-out from, and for, the Gospel, Phil. 1:12-20

D. The Future due to the Gospel, 1:21-30

E. The Face of the Gospel, 1:27-30

III. THE PUBLISHING OF CONCERN, 2:1-4

A. The Relationship to Consider, 2:1-2

1. The Implication, 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,*”

The Motives for Unity

- The Consolation – “If *there be* **therefore** any **consolation** in Christ...”
- The Comfort – “...if any **comfort** of love...”
- The Communion – “...if any **fellowship** of the Spirit...”
- The Compassion – “...if any **bowels and mercies**...”
 2. The Implementation, 2:2 – “Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.”
 - a. The Command, 2:2a – “Fulfil ye my joy...”
 - b. The Components, 2:2b – “...that ye be likeminded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.”

The Marks of Unity

Phil. 2:2 Fulfil ye my joy,

- The Correct Thinking – “...that ye **be likeminded...**”
- The Consistent Thoughtfulness – “...**having the same love...**”
- The Close-knit Testimony – “...**being of one accord...**”
- The Catalyst for Totality – “... **of one mind.**”

B. The Remedy for the Challenge, 2:3-4

Phil. 2:3 *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.

1. Eliminate Ambition, 2:3a – “*Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory...*”

Original Word: ἐριθεία

Transliteration: eritheia

Definition: (the seeking of followers and adherents by means of gifts, the seeking of followers, hence) ambition, rivalry, self-seeking; a feud, faction, contention, strife.

Referring to strife with others, therefore, to carnal ambition (selfish rivalry).

Ancient Greek uses *eritheía* ("mercenary self-seeking") of acting for one's own *gain*, regardless of the discord (strife) it causes. *Eritheía* ("**selfish ambition**") places self-interest ahead of what *the Lord* declares right, or what is good for others.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/2052.htm>

Jas. 3:14 But if ye have bitter envying and **strife** in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.

15 This wisdom descendeth not from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, devilish.

16 For where envying and **strife** *is*, there *is* confusion and every evil work.

17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, *and* easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

Original Word: κενοδοξία

Transliteration: kenodoxia

Short Definition: vainglory, empty pride

This word is used only in Phil. 2:3.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/2754.htm>

Rom. 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, **not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think**; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

2. Elevate Another, 2:3b – "...but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves."

Original Word: ταπεινοφροσύνη

Transliteration: tapeinophrosune

Definition: humility, lowliness of mind, modesty.

That *quality* of mindset of "having a humble opinion of oneself, i.e. a deep sense of one's (moral) littleness – i.e. lowliness of mind" (J. Thayer).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/5012.htm>

Acts 20:19 Serving the Lord with all humility of **mind**, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews:

Eph. 4:2 With all **lowliness** and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

1 Pet. 5:5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with **humility**: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

Original Word: ἡγέομαι

Transliteration: hégeomai

Definition: (a) I lead, (b) I think, am of opinion, suppose, consider, **esteem**.

hēgéomai ("what goes before, in front") refers to *coming first in priority* such as: "the leading thought" in one's mind, i.e. to esteem (regard highly); <http://biblehub.com/greek/2233.htm>

Phil. 3:7 But what things were gain to me, those I **counted** loss for Christ.

8 Yea doubtless, and I **count** all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do **count** them *but* dung, that I may win Christ,

1 Thess. 5:13 And to **esteem** them very highly in love for their work's sake. *And* be at peace among yourselves.

1 Tim. 1:15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all
acceptation, that **Christ Jesus came into the world to save
sinners; of whom I am chief.**

3. Evaluate Altruistically, 2:4 – “Look not every man
on his own things, but every man also on the
things of others.”

Altruistic = unselfishly concerned for or devoted to the
welfare of others.

<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/altruistic>

- a. The Resistance to Selfishness – “Look not
every man on his own things...”

Original Word: σκοπέω

Transliteration: skopeó

Definition: I look at, regard attentively, take heed, beware, consider. <http://biblehub.com/greek/4648.htm>

The world, the flesh and the devil will influence us to focus upon “me.”

The worldview is “if it is right for you, then it must be right.”

Take care of number 1.

If it feels good, do it.

Instead of focusing upon self, a believer must focus on the “things of others.”

b. The Respect of Situations – “...but every man also on the things of others.”

2 Cor. 4:18 **While** we **look** not **at** the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

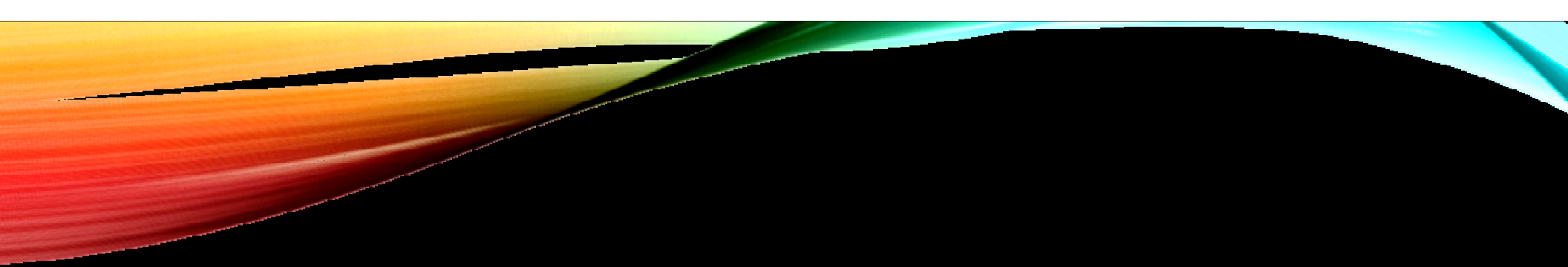
Phil. 2:5 **Let this mind be in you**, which was also in Christ Jesus:

Conclusion

2 Cor. 4:16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet **the inward man is renewed day by day.**

17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory;

18 **While we look not at the things which are seen,** but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but **the things which are not seen are eternal.**



Heb. 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

2 **Looking unto Jesus** the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

3 For **consider him** that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, **lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.**