

August 27, 2017
The Model for Service
Philippians 2:1-11

Introduction:

- You have heard it said, “Values are c_____ not taught.”
 1. “Don’t do as I do, but do as I say” is a philosophy that does not work with children.
 2. Jesus modeled service for us as outlined in Phil 2:6-8
- What is our responsibility in serving one another? (v. 5)

Do not take advantage of your p_____ to avoid service (6)

- What was Jesus’s position before He became a human?
 1. He did not merely r_____ God (most translations read He was in the form of God, but see how this same word is used in verse 7 – form of a servant)
 2. He existed having the vary n_____ of God (The NIV translates it this way; the NLT communicates the idea – He was God; see also Jn 1:1).
- What did Jesus not do?
 1. The KJV mistranslates this verse (*thought it not robbery to be equal to God*)
 - a. The word translated as robbery can refer to something o_____ forcefully that one does not have (this definition violates the context – Jesus did not become equal with God by robbery; the Word was always equal with God)
 - b. The word can also refer to something r_____ that one already has (The NIV and NLT reflect this idea)
 2. He did not take a _____ of His equality as an excuse not to serve us.

Application

1. I could have used my l_____ of financial support as an excuse for not serving you (1992, 2017)
2. The church is described as a b_____ and we are members of that body.
 - a. Attenders but not members – “I can’t do that because I am not a member.” (solution – become a m_____)
 - b. Members – “Someone else is more q_____”
 - c. God w_____ to use us in the body; focus on that!
3. Verses 1 is the application - there is only
 - a. True e_____ in Christ (let Him use you)
 - b. True c_____ through love (serve unselfishly)
 - c. True f_____ in the Holy Spirit (we must be controlled by the Spirit, not sin)

Be willing to sacrifice your p_____ to be effective (7)

- What did Jesus do instead of holding on to His equality with God? He e_____ Himself
 1. He gave up k_____ and wisdom (Heb 5:8; Lk 2:40)
 2. He gave up a_____ (Jn 14:28; 1 Cor 11:3)
 3. He confined Himself to a h_____ body.
- What privileges do we enjoy on this earth that we are asked to sacrifice in serving God and each other?
 1. Time (we must cherish God, the lost, and one another more)
 - a. W_____ to the lost
 - b. Helping someone through a c_____
 - c. T_____
 - d. P_____ with someone
 - e. V_____ the sick
 - f. M_____ the place of meeting
 2. Money (we must cherish God, the lost, and one another more)
 - a. 1 Tim 6:17 – there is nothing wrong with having l_____
 - b. 1 Tim 6:18 – there is everything wrong with not being g_____ with our abundance and ready to share it.
 - 1) Mission causes
 - 2) Helping others in a financial pinch
 - 3) Church ministries plan

- Verse 2 is the application of this point –

1. Be united in a _____ (having the same mind and spirit)
2. Be united in deeds of l _____ (having the same love)
3. Be united in pursuing the same p _____ (intent on one purpose of glorifying God).

Empty yourself of all p _____ (8)

Jesus has to h _____ Himself

1. To s _____ us
2. To s _____ to the Father
3. As He faced the c _____

Pride is a s _____; the temptation of putting the first two things into practice is to shine the light on ourselves

1. Don't shine the light on your position of s _____
2. Don't shine the light on your s _____
3. Don't shine the light on your h _____

The applications of this point is found in verses 3,4.

As Jesus had to wait for the Father to e _____ Him for His faithfulness, so we must wait. This will be done when Jesus comes again.