



## Home Worship Guide – Philippians 2:1-15

Complement to sermon on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012

### MEMORIZE

Philippians 2:4-5 (NIV)

“Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus”

### READ

Read Philippians 2:1-11

Paul is exhorting the Philippians to unity in this section. He challenges brothers and sisters in Christ to be united in thought and love for one another. This is followed up by a challenge to treat others as more important than ourselves. He then points to Christ as our ultimate example in what this looks like.

So, how did Christ humble himself? We see this when we compare who Christ is, as part of the trinity, and who he was as he walked this earth. Compare and contrast this for a little bit. Who was Jesus in his pre-incarnate state? What was his position? Where did he live? Then talk about these questions as he walked this earth in flesh. Where was he born? How was he born? Where did he live? What was his job? How was he treated? (Basic answer: Jesus walked this earth not as exalted king but as a humble servant who was persecuted and crucified on the cross)

Jesus' humility led to his exaltation. What is the purpose of our humility? After asking this question, read Philippians 2:12-15 and you get Paul's answer to this question.

We seek to imitate Christ and live lives of humility and love so that we are a light to the world, point people to Christ.

**Discussion:** (Use these questions as guidelines for discussion with your family. Share your experiences as they relate to the question and then ask the question to the rest of the family.)

1. How should we respond to Christ's humble actions of coming to earth and being crucified on the cross for our sins?
2. What are some examples of how you can treat your family and friends as more important than yourself?
3. In light of this passage from Philippians, what does a Christian Christmas celebration look like? How does this compare/contrast with an American Christmas celebration?
4. What can you, your family, your small group do to live this out? What are specific actions you need to start doing, stop doing to follow Christ's example in your own life and context?

**Bottom Line: Christians live humbly treating others as more important in order to point people to Christ who is lord.**

### SING

“What Child is This?” ([http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_hIJ2TMnDCY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_hIJ2TMnDCY))

This song takes on a whole new meaning when sang in light of Philippians 2:1-11. Think about all that Jesus willingly gave up to become the child that grew to be the man that would die for our sins! Amazing!

## SUGGESTIONS

These suggestions were created for specific age ranges as a way to help parents better communicate the biblical truths discussed in the Family Worship Guide. These suggestions are intended to help parents facilitate God-centered discussions with their children. Parents should prayerfully use these suggestions, and any other means necessary, to help their children discover the truths of God's word and worship Him together.

### Preschool (up to 5)

- Get pictures of fruit that grow on trees
- Show pictures to your kids and ask them what kind of tree they came from
- Ask them how they know. Talk about how we know a tree by the fruit it bears. Can a Pear grow on an apple tree?
- In the same way, we can tell what kind of a person somebody is by the things they do. The Bible tells us to love others more than ourselves
- Sharing our toys, letting others do things first (examples of what this looks like)
- Ask your kids for what ideas they may have for how to live this out

### Children (K-5<sup>th</sup>)

- Show pictures of sports equipment
- Ask what sport you play with the different forms of equipment
- What would it look like if someone showed up to a football game with ice hockey equipment? Or basketball with baseball? Or bowling with tennis?
- What would the person look like on the football field with ice hockey equipment? Would they look consistent with the sport they claim to play?
- How then do Christians look when their actions are contrary to their beliefs?
- We are called to make others more important than ourselves? Do we? What are ways we can do this tomorrow at school? With our family? With our friends?

### Students (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)

- What does it mean to be humble? How is that different than being weak?
- How did Christ demonstrate humility with his life?
- For many teenagers, there is a desire to prove themselves strong and independent to others. Does this desire align with the example of Christ? How, or how not?
- How can you demonstrate Christ-like humility at school by putting others first? What about among your friends? What about at home?

## PRAY

Lord Jesus, show us who we can sacrificially love and willingly to lead others to you. Help us to surrender our desires for yours Lord. Give us the strength to live for you!