



THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE GOSPEL

PHILIPPIANS 2:1-4

The Call for Unity

Small Group Study Guide

1. What are the four reasons for pursuing unity in the church (v. 1)?

2. The meaning of “encouragement” is to “come alongside someone; to give assistance by offering comfort or counsel.”
 - What is the encouragement the believer experiences by being united with Christ?

 - In your own words, how is being encouraged, by being in Christ, a reason for showing unity in the church?

 - What are some specific ways you can pass on the encouragement in Christ you have received to others?

3. The meaning of “consolation” is to “speak closely and intimately with someone or to show grace and kindness to another.”
 - What is the consolation of love that a believer in Christ experiences?

 - In your own words, how is having been consoled by the love of God a reason for showing unity in the church?

 - What are some specific ways you can show consoling love to others in the church?

Don't Forget:

Discuss the Sermon Notes from this week

BIBLE MEMORY:

Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit; but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests but also for the interests of others..

Philippians 2:3-4

4. The meaning of “fellowship” is to “share or partner with another; to join in a common experience or goal.”
 - How does a believer experience fellowship with the Spirit?
 - In your own words, how is experiencing fellowship with the Spirit a reason for showing unity in the church?
 - What are some specific ways you can partner and share with other believers in Christ?
5. The meaning of “affection and compassion” is to experience in one’s deepest emotions a mercy and kindness when in need.
 - What affection and compassion have Christians experienced by being united with Christ?
 - In your own words, how is experiencing affection and compassion from God a reason for showing unity in the church?
 - What are some specific ways that you can show affection and compassion to others?
6. What actions or attitudes most disrupt unity in the church (v. 3)?
7. Selfishness is the desire to advance one’s personal interests, goals or agenda at the expense of others or the whole. Based on this, why is selfishness so destructive in the church? What are some ways that selfishness becomes evident in a group setting?
8. Empty conceit is the desire to receive recognition, fame, glory or honor above others. In essence, it is pride. Based on this, why is empty conceit so destructive in the church? What are some ways that empty conceit becomes evident in a group setting?
9. How is true, genuine humility evidenced (v. 4)? How can you exhibit humility in the church and thereby bring greater unity in the church?
10. Why is unity so important for those in the Fellowship of the Gospel?
11. Is there a difference between requiring unity in the church and requiring uniformity in the church? Explain your answer.

For Next Week:

Prayerfully meditate and study the following: Philippians 2:5-11