

The 16th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, September 29, 2019
“Joy Ride: A Study of Philippians ~ The Humble Path To Joy”
Philippians 2:1-11

The path to joy isn't the accumulation of things, but rather _____.

We can have all the money in the world; we can have fame, success, and power, but if we have _____ in our relationships, life is miserable.

Humility is the key to _____ conflict because _____ is one of the primary things that causes it.

“Pride always leads to arguments.” (Proverbs 13:10)

“...make my joy complete; be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.” (2:2)

4 KINDS OF RELATIONAL UNITY

- The same _____ = _____ harmony.
- The same _____ = _____ harmony.
- The same _____ = _____ harmony.
- The same _____ = _____ harmony.

4 HABITS OF HUMILITY

Habit #1. Don't let _____ be your _____.

Pride is the _____ of every other sin, and so it's not surprising that every _____ we go through has an element of pride mixed into it.

“Do not do anything from selfish ambition or vain conceit....” (2:3)

- **Selfish ambition = It's all about _____.**

“Whenever there is jealousy or selfish ambition, you'll find confusion and every other kind of evil.” (James 3:16)

- **Vain conceit - I'm _____ than you.**

In Galatians 5 Paul tells us that when we live a prideful, _____ life, it can show up in all kinds of ways that he calls: _____.

“Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these.” (Galatians 5:19-2)

If we want to experience true and lasting joy, we've got to have _____ in our relationships. And if we're going to have harmony, we've got to have _____.

“Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.” (Proverbs 16:18)

How prideful are you?

What role does selfish ambition and vain conceit play in your life?

Habit #2: Be _____ or _____.

Humility provides the _____ of every healthy relationship. When we're humble we don't act like we _____ it all; we treat each other with _____; and we give each other _____.

“Don't do anything from selfish ambition or vain conceit. Instead, be humble and give more honour to others than to yourself.” (2:2-3)

This is the _____ of what the world teaches us. The world tell us to do what's _____ for us; to look out for number one; and to live for _____. Paul tells us to be _____ and to give more _____ to others than to ourselves.

Humility is not _____.

Humility = *tapeinophrosyne* =

Humility isn't thinking _____ of ourselves, it's not thinking about ourselves at all! It has nothing to do with what we think about ourselves, but what we think about other _____. Humility isn't putting ourselves down—it's _____ other people up. Humility isn't devaluing me—it's valuing you _____. Humility isn't denying our strengths, it's being honest about our _____.

God makes more _____ in the Bible about humility than anything else. If we live a humble life, dependent upon God—if we think about others more than ourselves—God promises to give us His:

“God opposes the proud but he gives grace to the humble.” (James 4:6)

Any time I'm acting, speaking or thinking something in a prideful, _____ way, I'm on the _____ side of God. I may be right in my theology or politics; however, if I'm _____ it in a prideful way, I'm _____.

Grace is the ability to _____ when I don't feel like forgiving. Grace is the ability to _____ a conflict when I don't feel like it. Grace is the ability to _____. The only way our relationships will last is with God's _____.

And the only way we get God's grace is by being _____.

"He must increase, but I must decrease." (John 3:30)

How humble are you? Are you trying to increase or decrease?

Habit #3: Learn the lost art of _____.

We live in world that suffers from _____ Deficit Disorder because our tools and technology have given us very _____ attention spans and trained us to no longer pay attention to the _____ around us.

"Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others." (2:4)

That's _____ nature. I think about _____ more than anything else. However, God says if we want true and lasting joy, we've got to change our frame of _____. Because _____ doesn't come from you thinking about you all the time. It comes from you being _____ in what other people are interested in and caring about what they care about.

The greatest gift we can give somebody is our _____ because our attention is our _____; and time is our most _____ asset.

How attentive are you? Are you interested in only what concerns you?

Habit #4. Ask what would Jesus _____?

"Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus..." (2:5)

When we find ourselves in the midst of a problem, _____, or difficult decision, we need to seek to have the same _____ that Jesus would have had in that situation. We need to ask ourselves: In this situation or conflict, what would Jesus do?

ACTING LIKE JESUS

• **Don't _____ what I think I _____.**

We can go through life with a feeling of _____—thinking we deserve so much—and when we don't get it, we can get demanding.

"Though he was God, he did not demand and cling to his rights as God..." (2:6)

The Christ-like thing to do is the exact opposite—it's not demanding what we think we deserve. The NT calls this _____.

Not only are Christians _____ again when we come to salvation, but we also continue dying to self as part of the process of _____.

"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me." (Galatians 2:20)

Are you understanding or are you demanding?

• **Look for ways to _____.**

"...but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form..." (2:7)

The more we give our lives away, the more God blesses us with _____.

"...whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many." (Matthew 20:26-28)

Do you have a servant's heart?

Do you seek to serve others or are you only looking to serve yourself?

• **Do what's _____ even when it _____.**

"...he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross." (2:8)

Every day we find ourselves in situations where we have a choice: Will I do what I want to do or what _____ wants me to do? Will I do what is _____—even though it will cost me something—or will I take the _____ way out? Humility and _____ go hand in hand.

When it comes to doing the right thing, how obedient are you?

"...whoever says, 'I abide in [Christ],' ought to walk just as he walked." (1 John 2:6)

Are you walking as Christ walked? How does your faith inform your life?



"Therefore God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (2:9-11)

To say "Jesus is Lord," is a _____ statement. It means I'm not Lord—I'm not in _____ or the master of my fate—it means that He's on the _____ in my life and not me.

The great thing is, when we accept that Jesus is Lord and we're not, we can stop _____ pretending that we're in charge and let God be God.