7 Powerful Graces for Living: Serve

Philippians 2:1-11
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Philippians 2:1-11 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (NIV)

Our Vision: Connect with Christ, Church and Community

1. ______________ selfish ends

Human ______________: Do nothing from a sense of “it is all about me” or “it is my right.”...Do everything without grumbling and arguing...so that you will be unblemished children of God in a crooked and distorted society.

Philippians 2:6a, 14-15(JOT)

2. ______________ to power of a servant’s heart

__________________________ tools: In fighting this battle...Isn’t there the encouragement of Christ in you, the persuasion of Christ’s love, the fellowship of the Spirit of Christ, Christ’s compassion and complete empathy...then fill me with joy by using these tools to enable...

Philippians 1:30a, 2:1-2a (JOT)

3. ______________ the benefits

__________________________ strength: I am not telling you this because I need anything. I have learned to be satisfied with the things I have and with everything that happens... I can do all things through Christ, because he gives me strength.

Philippians 4:11, 13 (NCV)

Spiritual Action Step:

Do you find yourself being malcontent and frustrated? Is selfishness hurting you and ruining your relationships? How are you reflecting the image of Christ in your life? Jesus says: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.” (Luke 9:23-24 (NIV)) Challenge yourself to seek the transforming grace of being God’s servant! This week read, Luke 9 and Philippians 2 and in the Spirit of Christ to empower your life.