

Tips from Philippians chapter 2

Dear ones in Christ, I am struck by the immense amount of material Paul crams into Phil. 2:1-11. This is one of the richest passages of scripture and one we can learn many lessons from. As believers, members of Christ's body, Paul tells us we should practice 5 great Christian graces which he lists here for us.

#1 is Unity. We see unity in v. 2..." be likeminded, having the same love, *being of one accord, of one mind*." Unity is essential if the body of Christ is to function properly.

#2 is Humility, so important and so elusive. How we need to strive for humility in our relationships with each other. We see humility listed in verses 3,4 and 8.

#3 is a Christlike Attitude. In v. 5 the NAS Bible says, "**Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus...**" Each of us should strive to pattern our lives after Christ. If each of us did that we would have a truly Christlike church.

#4 is Servanthood. In v. 7, the original text says, Christ, the Great God, became a "bond-servant". How we need servant hearts, and hands, as we serve one another.

#5 is Obedience. Christ was obedient to the point of laying down his life on a cross. Are we willing to "obey" when we know God's Word or God's Spirit is speaking to us? How easy it is to resist or rationalize. How we need to simply obey.

Let's use these 5 great lessons as self-examination tools during the coming year.
Barb and I send you our love and our thanks for your love, support and prayers.

In His service,
Dan Lehigh