

Every Knee Will Bow

Philippians 2:5-11

Big Idea: Every knee will bow to Jesus. He humbled Himself, taking on human form and dying for our sins. We're called to have the mind of Christ - thinking and living like Him. Exalt Christ, draw closer to Him and each other. Trust in His sacrifice alone for salvation.

Key Takeaways:

1. Jesus humbled himself, laying aside his divine rights to become human and die for our sins.
2. We are called to have the mind of Christ - thinking and living like Jesus.
3. Unity among believers comes from exalting Christ together.
4. Everyone will ultimately bow to Jesus and confess Him as Lord.
5. Our salvation comes from Christ's sacrifice, not our own efforts to be good.

Scriptures:

- ☐ Revelation 4:8-11
- ☐ Revelation 5:1-14
- ☐ Romans 8:29
- ☐ Galatians 2:20
- ☐ Luke 9:23
- ☐ Mark 8:31
- ☐ Isaiah 53:3-5
- ☐ Acts 4:12
- ☐ Romans 10:9

Opening Question:

What is one experience or moment in your life when you felt a strong sense of humility or had to set aside your own rights to serve others?

Discussion Questions:

The sermon emphasized Jesus "emptying himself" of his divine rights. How does this challenge your view of Jesus? How might it impact the way we approach our own rights and privileges?

Pastor Tim said, "Unity is never to come at the price of truth." How do we balance maintaining unity while standing firm on biblical truth? Can you think of examples where this might be challenging?

Reflect on the idea of "daily dying to self." What does this look like in practical terms? What areas of your life do you find it most difficult to surrender?

The sermon mentioned Jesus' constant exposure to sinful people during His earthly ministry. How does this perspective impact your view of Christ's sacrifice? How might it change the way we interact with others?

Discuss the concept of "taking the Lord's name in vain" as living in a way that dishonors Christ while claiming to follow Him. In what subtle ways might we be guilty of this?

How does focusing on Christ's humility and sacrifice help draw us closer to each other as believers?

Practical Applications:

1. This week, when you're tempted to assert your "rights" in a situation, pause and consider how Jesus laid aside His rights. Choose one instance to respond with Christ-like humility.
2. Practice "exalting Christ" daily. Set aside time each day to specifically praise Jesus for who He is and what He's done.
3. When you sin this week, use it as an opportunity to meditate on Christ's sacrifice. Thank Him specifically for dying for that sin.
4. Look for ways to promote unity in your church or small group by focusing conversations and activities on Jesus rather than personal preferences or disagreements.
5. Identify one area where you struggle to "die to self." Share it with the group and commit to praying for each other in these areas.
6. Reflect on the "V" of Christ's descent and ascent. Write a prayer or journal entry expressing your gratitude for His humility and victory.

Closing Thought/Prayer:

Reflect on how you can intentionally foster the mind of Christ in your daily actions and interactions, and seek God's help in laying aside personal rights and embracing humility.
