

# Harmony by Humility

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## I. Introduction.

A. One of the things that hinder spiritual growth the most is that people cannot get along with one another.

B. Text: Philippians 2:1-11.

## II. Exhortation.

A. The basis of the exhortation is that believers are in Christ, believers have comfort in Christ's love, believers have the Spirit, and believers have a heart for each other.

B. Paul's exhortation is to fill up his joy.

C. The way that the Philippians were to fill up their joy was by having the same perspective and priorities on life and by maintaining unity.

1. There was to be no strife.

2. Others were to be esteemed higher than themselves. The church ought to be a place where no one is looked down upon.

3. Humility is essential for unity.

## III. Example of the exhortation.

A. Christ is the supreme example.

B. Christ had equality with God, but He gave up His status.

1. He "emptied" Himself

2. This means that Jesus gave up the voluntary use of His divine attributes. He only used His attributes in conjunction with the will of His Father. (Hebrews 10, Mark 13:32)

C. Christ took on the form of slavery to God.

D. He became the likeness and fashion of man.

E. He died on the cross—the death of shame.

F. Christ was exalted because of what He did. If believers take on the attitude of Christ, they too will be exalted.

## Application questions:

1. What does it mean to be “like-minded?”

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2. Why is humility essential for unity?

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3. What strikes you most about Jesus’ example? Explain.

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