

The Humility of Christ
Philippians 2:1-11
December 25, 2016

Jesus was a humble servant of servants. He led by example.

That which is true of Jesus should be true of His followers! The words to His disciples were, "Follow Me."

1) He Serves.

But made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

Philippians 2:7

For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Luke 19:10

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many. **Mark 10:45**

So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?"¹³ You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am.¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.¹⁶ Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him.¹⁷ If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. **John 13:12-17**

Isaiah 53

No reputation? "In the ultimate act of humility, the God of the universe became a human being and died for His creation.¹

Bondservant? Being a bondservant of Christ is not drudgery. His "burden is light" (Matthew 11:30). Also, we have this promise: "Now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life" (Romans 6:22).

But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant.¹² And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. **Matthew 23:11-12**

To whom do I serve? Part of following Jesus is being a servant of the Lord and to others.

2) He Obeys.

And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. **Philippians 2:8**

Humility – Jesus stepped out of Heaven (perfection) and came into imperfection. All of this out of obedience and to save us.

Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done. **Luke 22:42**

Jesus was focused not on His own desires, feelings, wants and hopes but His Fathers.

It's important that we remember Jesus' love was what held Him on the Cross not the nails, soldiers or anything else.

Who am I obeying? My flesh, others, desires or the Lord? To obey Him I must know Him, be in His Word and be in prayer regularly.

¹ <https://gotquestions.org/kenosis.html>

3) He Glorifies God.

Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,¹¹ and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. **Philippians 2:9-11**

All He did was for the Father's Glory.

Birth...God's Glory

Childhood...God's Glory

Teenager...God's Glory

Adult...God's Glory

Healing...God's Glory

Teaching...God's Glory

Difficult questions for the "religious" leaders...God's Glory

Making disciples...God's Glory

Suffered...God's Glory

Died...God's Glory

Risen...God's Glory

Ascended into Heaven...God's Glory

Jesus' life was all about obeying the Father, bringing Him glory at whatever cost!

Is my life for God's Glory or is it for me? To whom or what do I live for? It's never a matter of God's ability, but His Will. How can the Lord get the most glory?

I didn't deserve a baby in a manger, but it was given.

I didn't deserve Heaven, but it was offered.

I didn't deserve Grace, but it abounds.

I didn't deserve a relationship with God, but it's given to all who would "follow me".

I didn't deserve the blessings of God, but they are there.

All of God and God's blessing are undeserved, given by that same baby born in a manger.

Prayer Focus:

I would be thankful for my Savior and God's Grace.

Am I obeying God?

Am I serving?

Am I glorifying God?