

Philippians #5
Philippians 2:1-11
“The Humility of Christ”

One of Tom’s unique skills is developing a theological concept and weaving it with practicality. This lesson is a classic example of this skill as he presents the theological significance of the incarnation (verses 5-11) with the day-to-day implications of living with the humility of Christ (verses 1-4).

Verses 5-11 pack plenty of theological punch. Explore each subtopic and the corresponding passages and write a brief summary in your own words.

| <u>Topic</u> | <u>Passage</u> | <u>Summary</u> |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Incarnation | John 1:1-4, 14 | |
| Substitutionary Atonement | 2 Cor. 5:21 & 8:9 | |
| Suffering Servant | Isaiah 53:1-7 | |
| Exalted Name | Romans 14:11 & Eph. 1:21 | |

Jesus came to earth for a specific purpose. Tom said, “*He came to do for us that which we cannot do for ourselves.*” Reflect on these related purpose statements from Jesus.

- Mark 10:45
- John 10:11, 14-18
- Luke 5:31-32 & 19:10

One of Tom's main points is that followers of Christ must live differently. And he explained several aspects of how this is demonstrated. Think through and record how you can be an example of each of the following:

- ◇ Loving one another
- ◇ Living in unity
- ◇ Living consistently like Christ
- ◇ Living with compassion for others

Our world is polluted with a sense of self-centered entitlement. Where do you see this from the world; and more pointedly, where do you see it in yourself?

Tom illustrated humility of mind (Philippians 2:3) with two "real life" examples: Sandy – who was willing to give up her dog; and John Wooden as he coached in a demanding way, but always did so for the benefit of the players. As you reflect on these illustrations, how can you exhibit the qualities Tom emphasizes.

- ◇ Thinking of others above self.
- ◇ Willing to sacrifice your own rights.

Tom closed the lesson with this challenge: *"We are to be marked by humility, love and yielding."* Intentionally keep these three attributes at the forefront of your mind for 24 hours and see the difference that this "mind of Christ" can make!