

LIVING LIKE JESUS

Philippians 2:1-13

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

Key Verse:

He humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Philippians 2:8

The Point:

God's grace is given, not earned.

Making Connections:

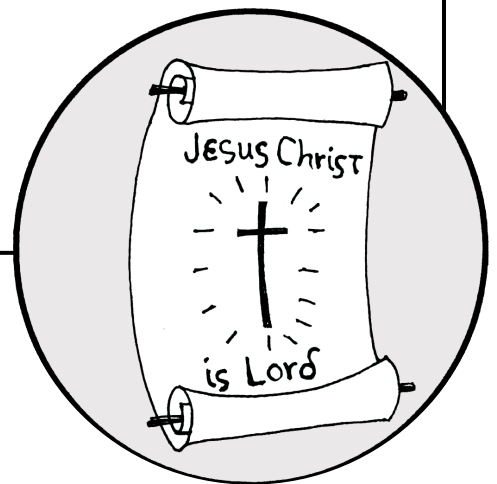
Living in Hope

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Bible Resources

Spiritual Practice:

Prayer



BACKGROUND

Making Connections

Paul tells the Philippians that despite his imprisonment and absence from them, he lives in the hope that they shall continue to look to the interests of others and make his joy complete. Paul calls on the people of Philippi to also live lives of humility and hope.

Story Summary:

Living Like Jesus

Last week, Paul praised the Philippians for sharing the love of Christ. This week, we read about Paul encouraging them to live in humility as Christ did. Paul still wanted them to spread the gospel, but instead of just broadcasting it with words, he now urges the Christians to live lifestyles that would reflect Christ. That meant living a life of servanthood and care for others.

Jesus could have easily come as an earthly king, enforcing justice and righteousness with physical strength and harsh laws. Instead, Jesus lived a life of humble servanthood. His was the very nature of God, but he was so willing to serve others that he gave his life on the cross. Following his crucifixion and resurrection, God exalted Jesus to the highest place, where all would praise and worship him, glorifying God.

The Point

God's grace is given, not earned. Despite his equality with God, Jesus chose the path of humble humanity, for which God exalted him above everything in heaven and earth. When we share Jesus with others, we need to do more than tell the story. We need to live as examples of Christ,

caring for others and serving them. Sharing Christ with others does not mean standing in judgment over them, demanding that they do the right thing. Instead, it means serving people who are hurting and hungry, who, like us, are sinners and saints. This is what it means being the very hands and feet of Jesus in the world.

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Bible Resources

It can be challenging to understand the Bible. It is a collection of books that were written in times and cultures that we do not understand, with customs that are unfamiliar, often translated with phrases and language with which we are not acquainted. There are many resources that are available to help us unlock the difficult passages of the Bible. Concordances and appendixes allow the reader to find Bible passages about a specific word or topic. Bible dictionaries define unfamiliar words. Bible maps help us to visualize the area. Commentaries are written by scholars to bring culture and context to verses, passages, and books that we would otherwise not understand. They include historical, linguistic, and theological information. Today these Bible resources are available in print and online.

Spiritual Practice: Prayer

Today's story emphasizes the importance of humility and of placing the needs of others before our own. While it is good to pray for ourselves and our own needs, it is also important to pray on behalf of others. In these intercessory prayers, we seek to serve and bless other people.

Philippians 2:1-11

T R Y G M E G D E L W O N K C A D
M T T N E M E G A R U O C N E F Z
O S Y P N T E S D N I M X U W J A
P A P U W A W G G E J I U X E F L
D E J I L I N U F T Y R O L G V M
J Y Q W R I G E P V Q C W K F P P
E C U Q R I E I P G R V L X U J C
S Q O A W T T U C U G I A V K N T
U I H M N X F I C Q F N T L Y O N
S S M D P I N M Q Q D R Y T U A E
L J N E W A E V O L O S I S D E I
M E A T Z Y S U G F J L N A E W D
O Z I L Y X Y S M R I F B I T G E
T U L A N W A O I M A K Z T I J B
H H K X P O C K U O H Q R P N O O
Z V E E W B M H X A N X Y B U Y X
S T C F F F S E R V A N T P Q I D

encouragement	acknowledge	compassion	obedient
humility	comfort	mindset	exalted
servant	sharing	spirit	united
glory	value	Jesus	love
bow	joy		



Do nothing

out of selfish ambition or conceit



but in

humility

count others more significant than yourselves.



Let each of you look not only to his own interest but also to the



interests of others.



A Lesson in Humility

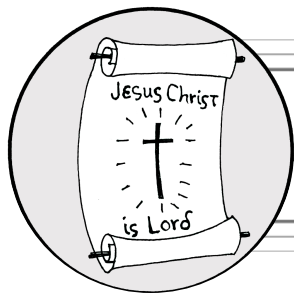


Complete the paragraph by filling in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the story.

"When someone invites you to a _____ feast, do not take the place of _____, for a person more distinguished than you may have been _____. If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this man your _____.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the _____ important place. But when you are invited, take the _____ place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, '_____, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all your fellow _____. For everyone who _____ himself will be humbled, and he who _____ himself will be exalted."

Luke 14:8-11 (NIV)

Friend	guests	humbles	least	seat
exalts	honor	invited	lowest	wedding



THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story

Narrative Lectionary, Year 4 (2025-2026)

Lesson #4-35
Philippians 2:1-13

LAST WEEK

Despite his imprisonment for preaching the gospel, Paul rejoiced in the Philippians and rejoiced even more that the gospel of Christ continues to spread (Philippians 1:1-18a).

THIS WEEK

Paul continues his letter explaining that, despite his equality with God, Jesus chose the path of humble humanity, for which God exalted him above everything in heaven and earth (Philippians 2:1-13).

STORY SUMMARY

Living Like Jesus

Paul wanted the Philippians to spread the gospel, but instead of just saying it with words, he urges them to live lives that reflect Christ. That meant living a life of service to others. Jesus could have easily come as an earthly king, enforcing justice with physical strength and harsh laws. Instead, Jesus lived a life of humble service. He was so willing to serve others that he gave his life on the cross. Following his crucifixion and resurrection, God exalted Jesus to the highest place, where all would praise and worship him.

PRACTICE: PRAYER

Today's story emphasizes the importance of putting others before ourselves. While it is good to pray for our own needs, it is also important to pray for others. Let each family member choose someone to pray for each day. Pray together for each of them.

NEXT WEEK

The Holy Spirit fell on the disciples on Pentecost and allowed them to preach the good news to people of all nations and languages. Paul called upon the Philippians to rejoice that God had redeemed them (Acts 2:1-21; Philippians 4:4-7).

THE POINT

God's grace is given, not earned.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Bible Resources

It can be challenging to understand the Bible. It is a collection of books that were written in times and cultures that we may not understand. There are many resources available to help us understand the difficult passages of the Bible. Concordances allow the reader to find Bible passages about a specific word or topic. Bible dictionaries define unfamiliar words. Bible maps help us visualize the area. Commentaries are written by scholars to give us context for verses, passages, and books that we would otherwise not understand. Today, these Bible resources are often available in print and online.

Family Discussions

Use the questions below—or any you have—to discuss this lesson’s Scripture reading with your family.

- † Did you find anything in this reading that was surprising?
- † What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- † What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God’s message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read Philippians 2:1-13

Although he is equal with God, Jesus chose the path of humility and service. Think of one way you can serve someone in your family this week. Do your service in secret.

Monday—Read Philippians 2:14-18

Paul rejoices in the Philippians. Read this passage once while everyone murmurs as it is read. Read it again while everyone is silent. When is it easier to hear the Word: when people complain or when they listen attentively?

Tuesday—Read Philippians 2:19–3:1a

Paul will send Timothy to Philippi to bring joy to the church. Timothy was young, but Paul trusted him in the spreading of the gospel. Identify the gifts that your youngest family members have for sharing the gospel.

Wednesday—Read Philippians 3:1b-6

Perfect observance of the law does not lead to life; knowing Jesus is what is essential. Sum up your faith story.

Thursday—Read Philippians 3:7-16

Paul counts everything else as loss. List things that are important to you. After each person names something, say together “But Jesus is greater!”

Friday—Read Philippians 3:17–4:1

Paul urged the Philippians to imitate leaders in the faith and allow Jesus to transform them. Play a game of Follow the Leader. How can we follow Jesus in our actions?

Saturday—Read Philippians 4:10-20

Paul expressed his thanks to the Philippians for supporting him in his ministry. Go around your house and notice the wonderful things that God has provided. Thank God for God’s gifts.