



Studies in Philippians:
Bearing the Mark of Joy
"A Joyful Church Cultivates Unity"
Philippians 2:1-11

Sermon Proposition

We Are Called to Perfect Joy by Cultivating Unity!

Sermon Question

How Can We Cultivate Joy-producing Unity in Our Church Family?

By Celebrating Shared Experiences 2:1

By Submitting to Each Other2:3-4

By Becoming Christ-Like2:5-8

Live It!

- ✓ List examples of the four shared experiences (2:1) from your relationships. Give thanks to God for these shared experiences. Write a note of thanks to a brother or sister in Christ.
- ✓ Seek honest feedback. Enlist the help of a trusted friend to provide feedback on your selfish motivations or deeds.
- ✓ Partner in the Gospel through Prayer

Lord Jesus,

I am not my own. I belong to You. Reveal my selfish ways, the ways I have contributed to broken relationships or division in our church family. Transform my attitudes to reflect your likeness. Restore the foundations of our unity. Renew Spirit-filled relationships in this church family. May our life together exalt your name to the glory of God the Father before a watching world. Amen.

Open It!

What was one of the silliest family squabbles you have witnessed?

Read It!

Philippians 2:1-11

Consider It!

What four shared experiences contribute to unity (2:1)?

Which of these have you experienced in your relationships?

What are the four characteristics of Christian unity (2:2)?

What did Paul say about a selfish independent spirit (2:3-4)?

How is selfish independence expressed in evangelical churches today?

What did Paul command believers to have in their relationships (2:5)?

What do we learn from Christ's example (2:6-8)?

How can we follow Christ's example? What would it look like in your relationships?

What do we learn about Jesus Christ from this passage (2:6-11)?

Is it enough to confess Jesus as Lord with our tongue? Why/why not?

How should Christ's lordship be evident in the life of His followers?

What hinders unity in our church? What can you do to promote unity?