



“The Way to Unity is the Way of Humility”

January 11, 2026

Philippians 2:1-11



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Introduction:

How important is unity? In organizations? In the Church?

Where there is division, there are heart problems.

The Way to Unity.... (Philippians 2:1-2):

“So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.”

- Have you received encouragement, comfort and love from Jesus? Have you sensed and felt the moving of the Holy Spirit?
- Then fight for the joy that comes from unity - a one-mindedness, being united. Paul’s fighting for it.
- What does it mean to be “of the same mind”?

Is the way of humility (Philippians 2:3-4):

“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to your own interests but also to the interest of others.”

- In an environment with many differing backgrounds, opinions and experiences, humility is the only path to genuine heart level unity.
- True humility has forgotten self in the shadow of God’s great love and mercy.
- True humility begins by looking at Jesus.

Which is the Way of Jesus (Philippians 2:5-8):

“Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

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- Fully God and fully man, he humbled himself and came to live among us.
- Jesus didn't cling tightly and grasp his rights, he gave them up for us.
- Crucifixion was the ultimate destruction of a person.

God Exalts the Humble (Philippians 2:9-11):

“Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

- Jesus' humility led to obedience and exaltation.
- One day everything, all people will be brought to submission under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
- Read Colossians 1:15-20 and then reflect on the humility of Christ.

Reflection on the Via Dolorosa:

What do you notice about the artistic rendering of Jesus' making his way to His crucifixion?

Jesus didn't grasp his rights, but gave them up. Are you a *grasper* or a *giver*?

What would it look like in your relationships for to you be more of a *giver*?

How can we be pretend “givers” while actually not genuinely *giving* to our relationships?

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