

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross! Philippians 2:5-8 (NIV)

Your Attitude

Oops. **What do you mean by oops?** I haven't gotten this right. **Tell me about it.** I like to be the center of attention. I like to be the most important person in the room. So often, I think so much about myself and my thoughts that I can't even hear what another person is saying. It's like their lips are moving but no words are coming out. It's hard to admit it, but on some level I must feel that I am more interesting than other people. It disgusts me to hear myself even say those words. How could I be so blind to my own pride? Who do I think that I am to secretly harbor such attitudes? My attitude really discourages me. **What are you going to do about it? Realizing your self-centeredness is a really good place to be, don't you think?** Yes, but I do want to move on from here and make some changes in my life. **Like what?**

First of all I want to confess this sin of self-centeredness to you. I know that it is just the opposite of the attitude that you want me to have. **How do you know that?** You gave me a pretty good and clear example to follow. **What example do you see in me?** You had the right to every honor. You had the right to be treated with the highest respect. Yes, and you did not claim any rights. Instead you took on the form of a servant. You could have demanded to be served, but no, you chose to obediently serve others even to the point of suffering death on the cross. **What do you suppose motivated my service?** I think you were motivated by love for your Father and love for us. **Yes, that is exactly right. Do you believe that I can change you and grow this same kind of love within you?** Yes, I do.

You mentioned that you wanted to make some changes in your life. Yes, I did. **That's a good desire to have. I know that you want to be like me. I know that you want to serve me and others.** Yes I do, that's right. **Do you really think that you are the one who can make these changes in your life?** What do you mean? **Do you really think you can develop a servant's heart by your own efforts?** I have been trying. **How has your trying been working out?** Not too well. I've mostly become just more aware of my failures. **That's left you discouraged and wanting to give up, hasn't it?** Yes, it has.

Would you like to take a different approach? Like what? **Why don't you try asking me to change you and give you a servant's heart?** You would do that for me? **What do you think?** I think I just asked a dumb question. I know that you will hear and answer my prayer asking for a servant's heart. **Very good, go ahead and ask me right now.**

Lord, I want to have the same attitude that you had. You gave yourself fully. You laid down your life. Help me to humbly serve you and others however you desire and direct me. I am your servant. Use me however you see fit. Amen

Identity*Nature Of A Servant*

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross!

NIV

Philippians 2:5-8

Identity*Form Of A Servant*

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 made himself nothing, 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.

ESV

Philippians 2:5-8

Identity*Position Of A Slave*

You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

NLT

Philippians 2:5-8

Identity*Form Of A Bondservant*

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 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.

NKJV

Philippians 2:5-8

Identity*Form Of A Slave*

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

NRSV

Philippians 2:5-8

Identity*Status Of A Slave*

Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became human! Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that: a crucifixion.

MSG

Philippians 2:5-8

Identity*Guise Of A Slave*

Let this same attitude and purpose and [humble] mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus: [Let Him be your example in humility:] Who, although being essentially one with God and in the form of God [possessing the fullness of the attributes which make God God], did not think this equality with God was a thing to be eagerly grasped or retained, But stripped Himself [of all privileges and rightful dignity], so as to assume the guise of a servant (slave), in that He became like men and was born a human being. And after He had appeared in human form, He abased and humbled Himself [still further] and carried His obedience to the extreme of death, even the death of the cross!

AMP

Philippians 2:5-8

Identity*Disguise Of A Slave*

Your attitude should be the kind that was shown us by Jesus Christ, who, though he was God, did not demand and cling to his rights as God, but laid aside his mighty power and glory, taking the disguise of a slave and becoming like men. And he humbled himself even further, going so far as actually to die a criminal's death on a cross.

TLB

Philippians 2:5-8

Identity*Form Of A Bondservant*

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

NASB

Philippians 2:5-8

Identity*Like A Servant*

In your lives you must think and act like Christ Jesus. Christ himself was like God in everything. But he did not think that being equal with God was something to be used for his own benefit. But he gave up his place with God and made himself nothing. He was born to be a man and became like a servant. And when he was living as a man, he humbled himself and was fully obedient to God, even when that caused his death—death on a cross.

NCV

Philippians 2:5-8

Nature Of A Servant

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Identity – Philippians 2-5-8

In Context: *Read Philippians 2*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross! Philippians 2:5-8

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

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Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I want to have the same attitude that you had. You gave yourself fully. You laid down your life. Help me to humbly serve you and others however you desire and direct me. I am your servant. Use me however you see fit. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

What is a servant willing to do on behalf of others?

How attentively do you listen to others when they want to tell you about their lives?

How concerned are you about the needs of other people?

What has your love and concern for others led you to do for them?

How has following Jesus Christ changed your attitude about yourself and other people?

What did Christ's humility and obedience cause Him to do for you?

What has your attitude of love for Christ motivated you to want to do for Him and others?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Ask the Lord to change your heart so that you can humbly and obediently serve Him and others.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in our heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will change your heart and give you the attitude of a servant to humbly serve Him and others.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how God is giving you a desire to serve Him and others.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you allow the Lord to develop the heart of a servant in you that is willing to serve Him and others.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, change my heart and make it like yours so that I am able to serve you and others.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?
