

Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose. Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. Philippians 2:1-4 (NLT)

It's Not About Me

I know, I know, it's not all about me. **What's not all about you?** Life is not all about me. I am not the center of the universe. Life does not revolve me. The sooner I realize this, I mean really realize this, the better. **Why is that?** I am more than a little embarrassed to come to realize how self-centered my thoughts have been. Even being embarrassed is another symptom of my problem. People are not thinking about me. I am not on everyone's mind. **That's true.**

What are you going to do about your self-centeredness? Even that is heard to hear. That question is hard to take. But it is one for me to think deeply about. **That will be good.** However, I do know what I will do. **What's that?** I will take my focus off myself and put it on you. That will be step one. I will consider you and all that you want to give me. **What do I want to give you?** You want to give me encouragement. You want to comfort me with your love. You want to fill me with your Spirit. You want to give me a loving and tender and compassionate heart. You want to root me in fellowship in your body of believers. You want me to work together with fellow believers to accomplish your purposes and fulfill your plans. You want to give me a humble and sacrificial heart that has no need or desire to impress others. In short, in more ways that I can think of, count, or even imagine, you want to make me like you. You want me to follow your example. You want me to love like you loved. You want me to give like you gave. You want me to serve like you served. **Yes, I do.** That brings me to step two. **Step two, was all that you have already mentioned just part of step one?** I think so, there is much overlap between step one and step two, of that I am sure. **Tell me what is step two.** I will look not only to my own interests but also to the interests of others. I will humbly consider others as better than myself. The way I see it, step one puts my focus on you. Step two puts my focus on others that you have called me to love and serve. If I implement step one and two, I will leave my self-centered life far behind me. I will live the life you have called me to live. I will be able to go and do what you ask of me. **Yes, you will. That will be very good.**

Lord, I will look out not only for my own interests but also for the interests of others. I will have a tender and compassionate heart for those in need. I will work together with one mind and purpose with fellow believers. I will fully love others just as you love me. Amen

Promises*Interests Of Others*

If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

NIV

Philippians 2:1-4

Promises*Take An Interest In Others*

Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose. Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

NLT

Philippians 2:1-4

Promises*Interests Of Others*

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

NRSV

Philippians 2:1-4

Promises*Interests Of Others*

SO BY whatever [appeal to you there is in our mutual dwelling in Christ, by whatever] strengthening and consoling and encouraging [our relationship] in Him [affords], by whatever persuasive incentive there is in love, by whatever participation in the [Holy] Spirit [we share], and by whatever depth of affection and compassionate sympathy, Fill up and complete my joy by living in harmony and being of the same mind and one in purpose, having the same love, being in full accord and of one harmonious mind and intention. Do nothing from factional motives [through contentiousness, strife, selfishness, or for unworthy ends] or prompted by conceit and empty arrogance. Instead, in the true spirit of humility [lowliness of mind] let each regard the others as better than and superior to himself [thinking more highly of one another than you do of yourselves]. Let each of you esteem and look upon and be concerned for not [merely] his own interests, but also each for the interests of others.

AMP

Philippians 2:1-4

Promises*Interests Of Others*

Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

NASB

Philippians 2:1-4

Promises*Interests Of Others*

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

ESV

Philippians 2:1-4

Promises*Interests Of Others*

Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

NKJV

Philippians 2:1-4

Promises*Lend A Helping Hand*

If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you care— then do me a favor: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand.

MSG

Philippians 2:1-4

Promises*Interested In Others*

Is there any such thing as Christians cheering each other up? Do you love me enough to want to help me? Does it mean anything to you that we are brothers in the Lord, sharing the same Spirit? Are your hearts tender and sympathetic at all? Then make me truly happy by loving each other and agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, working together with one heart and mind and purpose. Don't be selfish; don't live to make a good impression on others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself. Don't just think about your own affairs, but be interested in others, too, and in what they are doing.

TLB

Philippians 2:1-4

Promises*Lives Of Others*

Does your life in Christ give you strength? Does his love comfort you? Do we share together in the spirit? Do you have mercy and kindness? If so, make me very happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and having one mind and purpose. When you do things, do not let selfishness or pride be your guide. Instead, be humble and give more honor to others than to yourselves. Do not be interested only in your own life, but be interested in the lives of others.

NCV

Philippians 2:1-4

Take An Interest In Others

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Promises – Philippians 2:1-4

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?)***

Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose. Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. Philippians 2:1-4 (NLT)

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

Is there any encouragement | from belonging to Christ? | Any comfort from his love? | Any fellowship together | in the Spirit? | Are your hearts | tender and compassionate? | Then make me | truly happy | by agreeing wholeheartedly | with each other, | loving one another, | and working together | with one mind and purpose. | Don't be selfish; | don't try to impress others. | Be humble, | thinking of others | as better | than yourselves. | Don't look out | only for | your own interests, | but take | an interest in others, | too. Philippians 2:1-4 (NLT)

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

Lord, I will look out not only for my own interests but also for the interests of others. I will have a tender and compassionate heart for those in need. I will work together with one mind and purpose with fellow believers. I will fully love others just as you love me. Amen

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

What encouragement have you received as you have loved, followed, and served Jesus Christ?

How has the love of Christ comforted you as you have gone through twists and turns and ups and downs in life?

How has the Holy Spirit dwelling in you caused you to live in fellowship with fellow believers?

How has the Lord made you tender and compassionate to others who are in need?

How have you been lovingly working together with one mind and purpose with fellow believers?

How has the Lord developed humility in you to such an extent that you even consider others as better than yourself?

How are you looking out not only for your own interests but also for the interests of others too?

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

Look out not only for your own interests but also for the interests of others.

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

Have faith that the Lord will use you to look out for the interests of others.

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

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord has helped you to look out for the interests of 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 take an interest in others by helping them with what they need.

Prayer To Carry

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

Lord, I will take an interest in others by helping them with what they need.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I take an interest in others by helping them with what they need today?
