



OUR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

VALUING & PRIORITIZING OUR CHURCH FAMILY

PHILIPPIANS 2:1-4

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • August 20 & 21, 2022 • Msg. 22-25

Philippians 2

1 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,
2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. **3** Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. **4** Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. (ESV)

1. Thoughtfully _____ (v.1)

2. Decisively _____ (v.2)

3. Selflessly _____ (vv.3-4)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Hebrews 10:23-25**. Christians can forget how important our connection is to our church and its programs. How would you explain to a new Christian the value of a good church and his or her committed involvement in it?
2. Read **1 Peter 5:8-9** and **Ecclesiastes 4:12**. Solomon's principle can be seen in the advantage of the spiritual strength and protection derived from truly integrating into your church. How have you seen this to be true?
3. Read **Ephesians 4:15-16** and **1 Corinthians 12:14-20**. Consider how a body illustrates our interconnectedness as a congregation. What are some of the encouraging benefits for individuals inherent in this imagery?
4. Read **1 Thessalonians 2:17-20**. Knowing that the Thessalonians Paul speaks of here are as imperfect as any other congregation of Christians, what can you do to work on valuing and cherishing the Christians in your church?
5. Read **1 Peter 4:8-11**. When you consider all of God's investments in your life as a "stewardship" in light of how you connect and serve in your church, what specific thoughts or convictions come to mind?

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website and App (FPR.org).

Msg. 09-10 – **Highly Committed Participants**
Msg. 21-30 – **Joyful Participation in God's Assembly**
Msg. 19-36 – **The Unrivaled Fellowship of His Church**
Msg. 16-11 – **What the Church Can Do for You**
Msg. 16-12 – **What You Can Do for the Church**
Msg. 13-27 – **Church Life as it Ought to Be**
Msg. 18-28 – **Training People to Serve Christ**

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Aug. 21st Ps.119:1-48 & 1Cor.3
Aug. 22nd Ps.119:49-104 & 1Cor.4
Aug. 23rd Ps.119:105-176 & 1Cor.5
Aug. 24th Ps.120-123 & 1Cor.6
Aug. 25th Ps.124-127 & 1Cor.7:1-24
Aug. 26th Ps.128-131 & 1Cor.7:25-40
Aug. 27th Ps.132-135 & 1Cor.8
Aug. 28th Ps.136-138 & 1Cor.9

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Bellah, Robert. **Habits of the Heart: Individualism & Commitment in American Life**. UC Press, 1996. (Reference on culture.)
Carmichael, Liz. **Friendship: Interpreting Christian Love**. T&T Clark, 2004.
Edwards, Jonathan. **Charity and Its Fruits**. Banner of Truth, 1969.
Fernando, Ajith. **Reclaiming Friendship**. Herald Press, 1993.
Frazee, Randy. **The Connecting Church**. Zondervan, 2001.
Gorman, Julie. **Community that Is Christian**. Victor Books, 1993.
Holmes, Jonathan. **The Company We Keep: In Search of Biblical Friendship**. Russell Sage Foundation, 2019.
Lewis, C. S. **The Four Loves**. Harvest Books, 1971.
Ryken, Philip Graham, ed. **The Communion of the Saints: Living in Fellowship with the People of God**. P & R, 2001.
Strauch, Alexander. **The Hospitality Commands: Building Loving Christian Community**. Lewis & Roth, 2016.
Swindoll, Charles. **Improving Your Serve: The Art of Unselfish Living**. Reprint. Word, 2002.
Whitney, Donald. **Spiritual Disciplines within the Church: Participating Fully in the Body of Christ**. Moody, 1996.
Wilkins, Steve. **Face to Face: Meditations on Friendship and Hospitality**. Canon Press, 2002.