

# Philippians: Fellowship of the Gospel

## Study 7: Unity through Humility

**READ** Philippians 2:1-4 and **LISTEN** to the [sermon](#) by Pastor Craig.

1. Within our passage Paul commands: “Complete my joy” by being unified. Why is unity important within a family, friendship or church? (see also John 17:20-23).  
  
How is Christ an encouragement?  
  
How has God’s love comforted you?  
  
How has the Spirit united you to the Trinity and to other believers?  
  
How has God shown you affection and sympathy?  
  
How does being reminded of these things motivate you to unity with others?
3. R. C. Sproul stated, “*Doctrine divides, but doctrine also unites. It binds together the hearts of God’s people who celebrate the truth of God.*” In v. 2 Paul calls the people to be of the “one mind” and the “same mind” as it related to doctrine. Doctrines can be placed into three categories: (1) must all agree to be a Christian, (2) must all agree for church practice and ministry, (3) can agree to disagree and smoothly function as a church. In light of these things how would you categorize the following doctrines? Use 1, 2 or 3.

- |                                                                                          |                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trinity                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Atonement (Jesus death for sin)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jesus rose from the dead                                        | <input type="checkbox"/> People are dead in sin            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church governance                                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Meaning of communion              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> When will Christ return                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Women in leadership               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Millennium kingdom                                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Jesus was fully God and fully man |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inerrancy & authority of Scripture                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Mode of Baptism                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eternal security                                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce and remarriage            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation of miraculous gifts ie. Tongues speaking, prophecy |                                                            |
4. What does Paul mean in v. 3? Does he want you to pretend that you are worse than everyone else?
  5. Why are these attributes from vv. 3-4 necessary for unity? What does this tell us about some causes for disunity?
  6. How does the gospel help us to look out for the interests of others? How can you begin to look out for the interests of others today?

### STOP AND PRAY: according to the A.C.T.S. method

**Adoration:** Reflect on Christ’s life, death, burial and resurrection.

**Confession:** Acknowledge and confess the pride of looking down on others.

**Thanksgiving:** Thank God for all the blessings received in salvation.

**Supplication:** Pray for a deeper understanding of Christ’s humility in coming as a servant and dying as a sinner. Pray that you would reflect such an attitude.