

EPISODE NO. 336

Philp. 2:1-18

Be Like Christ!

Paul wrote these words: 1 Are you encouraged in Christ? Are you comforted by his love? Do you share with the Spirit? Do you have any tender feelings or compassion for others? 2 Make me truly happy; I want you to agree among yourselves and to have the same love for one another. Be united in soul and mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceited pride. Instead, humbly treat others better than yourselves. 4 Look for what is important to others, not just what is important to you.

5 Have the same attitude among you that Christ Jesus had:

6 Though Christ was divine by nature, He did not think that being equal with deity was something to hold onto. 7 Instead, he emptied himself, taking on the very nature of a slave. He became like human beings, appearing in human form. 8 He humbled himself. He obeyed, though it meant dying, even dying on a cross! 9 So, God made him the most important. God gave him the name that is above every name. 10 God wanted every knee to bow, when the name of Jesus is mentioned; those in the heavenly world, on earth, and under the earth. 11 And every tongue will confess that “Jesus Christ is Lord” for the glory of God the Father.

Work Out Your Own Salvation

12 So, my dear friends, you have always obeyed me when I was with you, but it is even more important that you obey while I am gone. Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, 13 because God is the One who is working in you. How? He causes you to want to do what pleases Him.

14 Do everything without complaining or arguing about it. 15 Then you will be pure and innocent. You will be God’s children, spotless in the middle of a dishonest, twisted generation of people. You will shine among them like stars in the universe. 16 Hold out the message of life. Then, when Christ comes, I can boast that my past work was not wasted, or the work I do now, either. 17 No, even if it is true that I am poured out like a drink offering for the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad. I am happy for all of you. 18 YOU should be happy for the same reason. Be happy with me!