

# PHILIPPIANS

Rejoice In  
The Lord!

## The Real Jesus—Part 3

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Lesson Seventeen

# Philippians

## Rejoice In The Lord!

**Lesson Goal:** To encourage students to understand who Jesus really is and what it means to have the mind of Christ.

**Scriptures:** Philippians 2:8

**For Memory:** “And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross.” Philippians 2:8

### The Real Jesus—Part 3

Who is the real Jesus? We have been studying the answer to this question for two sessions. In verse five, Paul challenged us to think like Jesus...to have the attitude of Jesus. We can't think like Jesus unless we know who He is.\* Paul knew that. He followed up his challenge with a great hymn that helps us know who the real Jesus is.

So far, we have said that Jesus is exactly like God, that Jesus chose to come to earth...He volunteered. He made room in Himself to be human. He then limited Himself by becoming human; as human as any human. His new nature was a servant nature...Jesus served, He didn't demand service. See Mark 10:42-45

Today, we will think about what it cost Jesus to become a human. And, the very first thing that we realize is that He gave up so much. Our scripture says that Jesus “found Himself in **appearance** as a man.” That actually refers back to His taking the **nature** of a servant and “being made in human likeness.” We have said that Jesus was as human as you are. He shared the same feelings, ideas, and dangers that all humans have. For Jesus, being human was basically the same as being a servant.

As a matter of fact, the very next phrase in our Scripture says that He “humbled” Himself.” How much more humble could one be than leaving His place as creator and sustainer of all the universe and becoming a mere human being with limitations that would ultimately allow humans to kill Him?

For Jesus it was a voluntary thing. No one forced Him to do it. It was His own choice to become a human, live with humans, and die for humans; giving up everything to do that. Finding Himself as a human, humbled Jesus. When one actually gets to know who they really are, and what their limitations are, they are humbled.

Yes, there are those who are so proud of themselves that they become arrogant and boastful. Those persons just don't know who they really are and what their limitations are. What Jesus had chosen (becoming human) was very limiting.

Humility is simply realizing that you are never totally independent. Jesus said that He could do nothing of Himself. See: John 5:19, 30; 12:50. While Jesus was on earth, He was dependent on the Father. It humbled Him.

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Think about a person who is paralyzed. That person is a real and alive person. However, that person has limitations and cannot do everything that some others can do. Now, think about yourself. You also have limitations. There are some things that you just cannot do. That should humble you. Actually, when we accept the fact that we can't do and be everything, we *are* humble.

So what did that understanding, humility, lead Jesus to do? He became obedient. He realized that His limitations put Him in just the right place to do it; so He followed the plan...became obedient...and went to the cross. Mark 10:45, as we have previously said, tells us, "...the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve." It continues, "and to give His life as a ransom for many." He gave up His life so that those of us who were sentenced to die for our sins could have life.

Now, that's who Jesus is. He is the one who realized that He was able to die...God cannot die. As a human He could die, and as the perfect human, and God's perfect sacrifice, He could die in the place of humans who needed someone to take their place in death for their sins.

See, if we are going to have the mind...the attitude...of Christ, we must be willing to die. But there is more, as we will see in our next lesson.

\*Underlined statements in this Teacher's Guide appear in the Student Worksheet with blanks to be filled in by the student during the lesson. Words in the Student Worksheet may not appear exactly as printed in the Teacher's Guide.



### Teaching Tips:

1. In this lesson you have the opportunity to define and demonstrate what humility is. Think this through and be willing and ready to answer questions as to what it should mean to your students.
2. Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance today. Ask Him to show you your real self, so that you can teach in humility.
3. Songs that emphasize Jesus as God, humility, Jesus as one of us, and Jesus dying for us would be appropriate.
4. Pray with your students asking God to teach us about the God's love that brought Jesus to earth to show us how to live and die if necessary for one another.
5. Jesus is the perfect example of humility. He is our example.
6. Jesus' most often used self-identification terms was, "Son of Man." He was Son of God, but to emphasize His relationship to His humanity, He called Himself that.
7. See Daniel 7:13, 14—prophecy

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### *Student Worksheet*

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**For Memory:** “And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross.” Philippians 2:8

### **The Real Jesus—Part 3**

=We can't \_\_\_\_\_ like Jesus (have His attitude) unless we know who He is.

=He then limited Himself by becoming human; as \_\_\_\_\_ as any \_\_\_\_\_.

His new nature was a \_\_\_\_\_ nature...Jesus served, He didn't demand \_\_\_\_\_.

=We have said that Jesus was as human as \_\_\_\_\_ are. He shared the same feelings, ideas, and \_\_\_\_\_ that all humans have.

=How much more humble could one be than leaving His place as \_\_\_\_\_ and sustainer of all the \_\_\_\_\_ and becoming a mere human being with limitations that would ultimately allow humans to \_\_\_\_\_ Him?

=There are some things that \_\_\_\_\_ just cannot do. That should \_\_\_\_\_ you.

When we accept the fact that we can't do and be everything, we are \_\_\_\_\_.

=Jesus realized that His limitations put Him in just the right \_\_\_\_\_ to do it, so He followed the \_\_\_\_\_...became obedient...and went to the \_\_\_\_\_.

=Mark 10:45 tells us, “...the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to \_\_\_\_\_.”

It continues, “and to *give His life as a ransom for* \_\_\_\_\_.”

### **How to begin a Personal Relationship with God:**

First, believe that there is a God.

Second, believe that Jesus, God's Son, was sent to earth to die so that you can have a relationship with God.

Third, ask God to forgive your sins in Jesus' name. Jesus' death on the cross paid the price of every sin you commit.

Fourth, ask Jesus to be your Savior and the Lord of your life.

Fifth, believe that He has answered your prayer and be determined to live for him all the rest of your life.