

PHILIPPIANS

Rejoice In
The Lord!

The Real Jesus—Part 5

Lesson Nineteen

Philippians

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

Scriptures: Philippians 2:10

For Memory: “At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in Heaven and on earth and under the earth.” Philippians 2:10

The Real Jesus—Part 5

We have come a long way in our study of who the real Jesus is. Today, we look at what happens when people realize who He is. People have all kinds of reactions when they meet someone important.

April and Dawn were driving to the mall to do some shopping. They were suddenly stopped by a traffic officer. They could see no reason for the delay. There was not much traffic, and no wrecks in sight. As they sat there in frustration, they were complaining about the fact that they were being held up for no reason at all. Then, in the distance, they heard sirens. As the sirens came closer, they looked down the street and a whole parade of black SUVs and cars were coming. As the caravan passed, Dawn remembered that the governor was coming to town that day to speak at the High School honoring some soldiers who were returning from battle. Suddenly, their complaining and frustration seemed all wrong. When they knew who was holding up traffic and why, it changed everything.**

That happens when people get to know who Jesus really is. He is God’s Son, and He is the one who came to earth to save us. Way back when Isaiah was writing (Isaiah 45:23) he quoted God as saying, “Before me every knee will bow...” Paul writing to the church at Rome (Romans 14:11) reminded his readers of this verse, using those words, “every knee will bow.” Here, in Philippians, Paul applies it to Jesus, the Lord, saying that there will come a time when every created thing with knees will bow humbly before Jesus.

Bowing, on your knees, is placing yourself in the position of someone willing to serve. It is a position of prayer. When we get really serious about praying, we get on our knees and bow humbly before God. God doesn’t require us to kneel, we do that of our own free will.* In an earlier lesson, we saw that Jesus “humbled Himself.” He voluntarily became a human, He took the position of a servant. He fell to His knees under the weight of the cross.

And so, Paul says that at the name of Jesus **every knee** will bow. What exactly does he mean, every knee. Well, it means that everything that has knees will bow. He says that those knees that belong in Heaven...probably the Angels and those who have died previously, on earth...humans and animals living on the earth, and even

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under the earth...maybe animals who live there and who knows what else. What we are sure of is that every knee in all creation will be bent and by that every living being will recognize Jesus and His name, Lord.

Think about it: When you hear, see, or say a person's name...someone you know...you immediately think of how that person looks, how they talk, how they act, and many other things about them. When the Bible speaks of a name, it has that kind of meaning. Someone's name was like a picture of all that person was, it was who they were.

This is not just knowing that His name is important. It is not just bowing down because God commands it. It is not only about the fact that God has exalted Him. When all knees everywhere bow down, they will be acknowledging the full truth. The name Jesus will finally be recognized as the name of the One that the Old Testament prophets said He would be, as everything that He said He was, and will finally be recognized as everything that the writers of the New Testament said He was and is.

So, when the name Jesus is spoken, everyone realizes, or will someday realize, that He is truly all that He was and is.

*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 a country that has no King or Queen, no physical recognition of royalty, the concept of being "royal subjects" is not part of our normal experience. We don't bow to other humans. We might let someone we respect: go in front of us in line; hold the door for them; address them by title like Doctor or Professor; maybe even cheer or applaud when they appear. However, none of that compares to the total respect and honor that will be given to Jesus.
2. Songs that emphasize Jesus as God, the name of Jesus and many praise songs would be appropriate.
3. Pray with your students thanking God for Jesus.
4. Some study of what the Old Testament has to say about Jesus is in order as you prepare this lesson. See, Psalm 2:7-12; Isaiah 9: 6, 7; 40:3-11; Jeremiah 23:5, 6; Micah 4:1-8; 5:1-5
5. Only God could make it possible for everything that has knees to bow when the name Jesus is spoken.

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Student Worksheet

For Memory: “At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in Heaven and on earth and under the earth.” Philippians 2:10

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=Bowing, on your _____, is placing yourself in the position of someone willing to _____. It is a position of prayer. When we get really serious about _____, we get on our knees and bow humbly before _____. God doesn't _____ us to kneel, we do that of our own free _____.

=Jesus voluntarily became a _____, He took the position of a _____. He fell to His knees under the weight of the _____.

=What we are sure of is that every knee in all _____ will be bent and by that every living being will recognize _____ and His name, Lord.

=The name _____ will finally be recognized as the _____ of the One that the Old Testament _____ said He would be, everything that He said He _____, and will finally be recognized as everything that the _____ of the New Testament said _____ was and is.

= When the name _____ is spoken, everyone realizes, or will someday _____, that He is _____ all that He was and is.

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.