

# PHILIPPIANS

Rejoice In  
The Lord!

## The Real Jesus And Our Attitude

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Lesson Twenty-One

# 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 2:5-11

**For Memory:** In the last seven lessons we have learned all the verses from Philippians five to eleven, see if you can say all of them. Philippians 2:5-11

### The Real Jesus And Our Attitude

Today, we want to tie together all the verses about who the real Jesus is. We are doing this because Paul told the Philippians that, “Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.” (verse 5) If we are to have the attitude of Jesus, we should be aware of what went on inside Him. We need to know what He thought, how He understood Himself, and what He thought about others. We can know some of that.

Much of it is clearly revealed in these seven verses. Paul chose this great song to follow his instruction for the Philippians to have Jesus’ attitude. The very first words speak of the relationship Jesus has with God the Father. Jesus is God, but He was willing to become a human. Christians who want to have the attitude of Jesus must understand that, though they are Children of God, they aren’t too good or too important to be what their friends and neighbors need them to be.

We learned, in verse 7, that Jesus became a servant. He actually became what He was not so that he could be our Savior. Jesus told His disciples (Matthew 20:25-28) “whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.” To have Jesus’ attitude, we must want to serve...whatever that costs. Paul, who wrote these words to the Philippians, said in another place, “Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone to win as many as possible.” (I Corinthians 9:19)

Verse 8 tells us that Jesus humbled Himself. Through the prophet Isaiah, God said, “This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit...” (Isaiah 66:2) To have Jesus’ attitude, Christians must be humble. Humble means low. One reason we bow our heads or even get on our knees when we pray is because we know we are lower than God. Jesus, though He was and is God’s Son, came down to human level...low enough to be killed by humans. That brings us to another of the attitudes of Jesus. He was obedient to His mission on earth. God had sent Him to become the Savior of all the humans who would believe in Him. And, becoming Savior meant that he had to pay the debt for our sin. To have Jesus’ attitude, Christians must be and do what God wants them to be and do. This is serving, but it is also living all of life as a missionary for God. Some of our mission work is serving others...this is the

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servant attitude. Our willingness to be what God calls us to be and do what God wants us to do is simple obedience.

In verse 9, Paul says that Jesus was exalted. Exalted means He was raised up, or given a very special place in God's presence. We said that this was like the athlete who gets a trophy for winning the race. The trophy being recognition for all that it took to win the race. Paul said that one day he would receive the "crown of righteousness" when he stands before God. (II Timothy 4:8) So, to have Jesus' attitude, Paul expected his work on earth to be that which would please God. All Christians ought to have that attitude.

In verses 10 and 11, we are told that there will come a time when everyone who has ever lived will bow (be humble) and say, "Jesus Christ is Lord." The Christian who will have the attitude of Jesus, expects everything to be revealed as it really is. All of the good, and even bad, that has ever happened will someday be known by everyone.

And, finally, just as sure as the confession of Jesus as Lord is certain to take place, we can also expect that God will be glorified. Those who have the attitude of Christ will want everything they do to glorify God.

\*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. This lesson is a special opportunity to address Christian behavior and tie it directly to the way our Savior behaved. Teachers can provide wonderful opportunities for students to see how they can be like Christ, having His gracious attitude.
2. Songs that emphasize Jesus as God, the name of Jesus, Christian service, and imitating our Savior and Lord will be helpful to this lesson.
3. Pray with your students thanking God for sending Jesus to earth to make it possible for us to become His children and for becoming our perfect example of how to live.
4. Refer back to Philippians 2:2. Christians who have the attitude of Jesus think alike. Mark 8:34-38 has much to say about what Jesus expects of us.
5. The student worksheet is a summary of the revelation of Jesus and what that should call Christians to as we seek to have the mind...the attitude...of Christ. It might be good to reserve a little time at the end of the lesson to go through that a second time.

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### *Student Worksheet*

**For Memory:** In the last seven lessons we have learned all the verses from Philippians five to eleven, see if you can say all of them. Philippians 2:5-11

### **The Real Jesus And Our Attitude**

=If we are to have the attitude of \_\_\_\_\_, we should be aware of what went on inside Him. We can know \_\_\_\_\_ of that.

=Christians who want to have the attitude of Jesus must understand that, though they are Children of God, they aren't too \_\_\_\_\_ or too \_\_\_\_\_ to be what their friends and neighbors need them to be.

=To have Jesus' attitude, we must want to \_\_\_\_\_...whatever that costs.

=To have Jesus' attitude, Christians must be \_\_\_\_\_.

=To have Jesus' attitude, Christians must be and do what God wants them to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. This is simple \_\_\_\_\_.

=So, to have Jesus' attitude, Paul expected his \_\_\_\_\_ on earth to be that which would please \_\_\_\_\_. All Christians ought to have that \_\_\_\_\_.

=The Christian who will have the attitude of Jesus, expects everything to be \_\_\_\_\_ as it really is.

=Those who have the attitude of Christ will want everything they do to glorify \_\_\_\_\_.

### **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.