



“I AM THE CHURCH”

WEEK 4: I WILL NOT LET THE CHURCH BE ALL ABOUT ME

COMMUNITY LEARNING COVENANT





1. USE CHAT FOR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

2. Be Respectful

- All questions and comments should acknowledge the sacred value of people. For example, “Is my comment or question a barrier or bridge to deeper learning?”
- Virtual chat is a community, not a monologue.



**3. WHEN POSSIBLE,
AVOID
GENERALIZATIONS
BY POINTING OUT
SPECIFIC PASSAGES
OR PAGES IN THE
BOOK.**



**4. IF WE DO NOT GET TO YOUR
QUESTIONS/COMMENTS;
OR YOU WANT THE
QUESTION/COMMENT TO
REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL,
PLEASE EMAIL:
PASTOR@LHMBC.NET.
YOU CAN EXPECT THAT WE
WILL DO SOME LEVEL OF
FOLLOW-UP.**





5. INVITE FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

**WHERE WE LEFT
OFF LAST WEEK...**

7 TRAITS OF A UNIFYING MEMBER



2 TRUTH NUGGETS

TRUTH NUGGET 1

God's desire is for Christians to get along. The validity of the Christian faith before the world, rests in our ability to love one another – both **inside** and **outside** of the Church.

TRUTH NUGGET 2

The power of the Church is evident not in how we handle our strengths, but in how we care for one another's weaknesses, hurts, and vulnerabilities.

ACTIVITY

1

Make sure that you have a “Post It” sheet.

2

Write on “Post It” something that is important to you in a Church (Be specific).

3

Find someone (other than your spouse) who has written the same thing.

4

VIRTUAL FAMILY: Write yours in the chat.

— There are many
different **needs,**
values, and
preferences
always operating
within the Body
of Christ.

**What's the
point of it all?**

THE SURVEY THAT SAID A LOT: WHEN PREFERENCE HURTS MINISTRY

1. Worship wars.
2. Prolonged minutia meetings.
3. Facility focus.
4. Program driven.
5. Inwardly focused budget. (i.e., does our church tithe?)

— THE SURVEY THAT SAID A LOT: WHEN PREFERENCE HURTS MINISTRY

6. Inordinate demands for pastoral care.
7. Attitudes of entitlement.
8. Greater concern about change than the gospel.
9. Anger and hostility.
10. Evangelistic apathy.

TODAY'S TRUTH NUGGET

**WE WILL NEVER FIND JOY IN
CHURCH MEMBERSHIP WHEN
WE ARE CONSTANTLY
SEEKING THINGS OUR WAY.
TRUE JOY MEANS
SOMETIMES CENTERING THE
NEEDS OF OTHERS.**

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11: A CASE STUDY IN SERVICE

BACKGROUND


- Known as the “Christ Hymn.”
- Part of larger letter to believers in Philippi.
- Philippi – Roman colonial city.
- Genre: Hymn, poem, or ode
- Date: Mid 50s AD-Early 60s AD

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11: A CASE STUDY IN SERVICE

Key Facts



One of the earliest theological statements on the identity of Jesus Christ.



Presents Jesus as both a divine and human example.

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be grasped,

⁷ but emptied himself,

taking the form of a servant,

assuming human likeness.

Philippians 2:5-11

And being found in appearance as a human,

⁸ he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly

and gave him the name

that is above every other name,

Philippians 2:5-11

¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God, the Father.

BECAUSE CHURCH IS NOT ALL ABOUT ME

1. I WILL BE CAREFUL OF WHEN AND HOW I USE POWER – v. 5-6

⁵“Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped...”

— BECAUSE CHURCH IS NOT ALL ABOUT ME

2. I WILL SEEK TO BE FILLED AND EMPTIED – v. 7

⁷ *“but emptied himself,
taking the form of a servant,
assuming human likeness.”*

— BECAUSE CHURCH IS NOT ALL ABOUT ME

3. I WILL NOT NEGLECT SACRIFICE – v. 8

*“And being found in appearance as a human,
8 he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.”*

— BECAUSE CHURCH IS NOT ALL ABOUT ME

4. I WILL TRUST GOD'S PROCESS – v. 9

⁹ “Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name,”

— BECAUSE CHURCH IS NOT ALL ABOUT ME

5. I WILL PURSUE GOD'S GLORY— v. 10-11

¹⁰ *“so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God, the Father.”*

TAKE THE “WE” NOT JUST “ME” PLEDGE

I AM A CHURCH MEMBER.

I WILL NOT LET MY CHURCH BE ABOUT MY PREFERENCES AND DESIRES. THAT IS SELF-SERVING. I AM A MEMBER IN THIS CHURCH TO SERVE OTHERS AND TO SERVE CHRIST.

TAKE THE “WE” NOT JUST “ME” PLEDGE

— MY SAVIOR WENT TO A CROSS. I CAN DEAL WITH ANY INCONVENIENCES AND MATTERS THAT JUST AREN'T MY PREFERENCE OR STYLE.