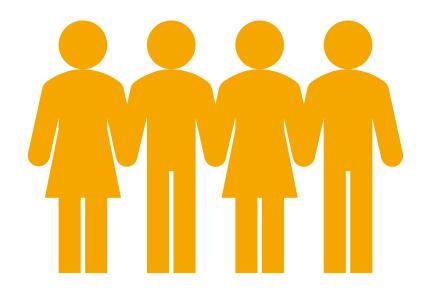


"I AM THE CHURCH"

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.

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

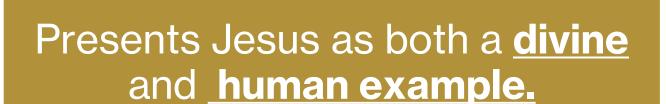
- -Known as the "Christ Hymn."
- -Part of larger letter to believers in Philippi.
- Philippi Roman colonial city.
- -Genre: Hymn, poem, or ode
- -Date: Mid 50s AD-Early 60s AD

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

Key Facts



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



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,

- he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.
- ⁹Therefore 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.

- 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..."

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

⁷ "but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, assuming human likeness."

3. I WILL NOT NEGLECT SACRIFICE - v. 8

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

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,"

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

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