

“Gopher Bronze”

Philippians 2:1-4

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All Scripture quoted from ESV unless otherwise noted

“In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.” (Philip Melanchthon)

If you don't have love for your brothers and sisters in Christ, unity is a Lost Cause;

- Unity means having one mind, one heart, one spirit, and one purpose.
- Unity is dependent on our love for one another.

Lift others up without putting Yourself down.

- The golden question: How can I make you the Hero of this story, rather than me?

Be the Initiator of humble service toward others.

- Lifting others up means constantly looking to be a Helper, not a Hero.
- *“If I consider you above me and you consider me above you, then ... we have a community where everyone is looked up to, and no one is looked down on.” (David Guzik)*

See a need, Meet a need.

- Sometimes the biggest acts of selflessness are a series of Smaller Acts.
- *“If we all wanted what was best for each other, we would have it.” (Unknown)*

DIG IN!

Here are some farm-fresh questions that will help you to personalize and apply this morning's message.

1. ***What was most surprising, unexpected, or helpful from today's passage/message? Why?***
2. ***Why does Paul use so many “if” statements in verse 1. How do you suppose the Philippians responded to these?***
3. ***If you could summarize each of the 4 verses in today's passage using one word each, what 4 words would you use? Why?***
4. ***Who is going to win tonight's big game?***

5. *What barriers to unity exist in our own church? Where do these barriers come from? What can you do about these?*
6. *Using your own terms, define “selfishness.” Compare that with others’ definitions. What similarities or differences do you see?*
7. *List 6 practical ways that you might actually be able to consider others above yourself this week.*
8. *Read through the book of Philippians this week. What patterns do you notice?*
9. *What have you learned through your personal time of Bible reading this week?*