



## CHRIST'S HUMILITY

*Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.*

Philippians 2:1-2

In the above verses, the apostle Paul spells out Christ's qualities that the church at Philippi—and all Christians—should try to nurture if we are to be his followers.

Jesus was humble from when he entered our world as a helpless baby to when he died like a common criminal. It was through his life and teachings that the world learned that we are all worthy and created equal before God

Some of the Christ's character traits that most endear him to me are his humility, gentleness, and servanthood. I'm reminded of that humility in Philippians 2:7-8:

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*... he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.  
And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!*

I can't help but envision Jesus, appearing like other men, on his knees before his Father. The Son of God, yet humble. He did not look down on the people around him. He did not look down on the tax collector, the leper, or the demoniac. He touched them, spent time with them, talked to them. He was a giving person who served others rather than asking to be served.

This description of Jesus makes me want follow him—to follow his example. I don't think the Bible asks us to die on a real cross, as Jesus did, but when we obey God's call on our lives, we do end up with a kind of a cross to bear. Much of what God asks us to do will require courage, strength and perseverance because the work can be challenging. Some of it may bring pain, even suffering.

Yet, in spite of this, it's a joy to know we're not living for ourselves alone. It's a joy to know that we have a meaningful life. There's joy in the giving. Winston Churchill said it well: "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." I want to have that kind of life.

Consider, when you see Jesus depicted like this. How would you respond when he asks you, "*Come to me..., For my yoke is easy and my burden is light?*" (Matthew 11:28, 30)

marja