



# To Live is Christ : Mindset

Philippians 1:1-10 | Ryan Pfeiffer | September 8, 2024

INTRO. Let me tell you a crazy story about Paul... 13 yrs before writing letter

- Shows up in Philippi... 49AD
- Kicks a spirit out of young slave woman... her owners get angry...
- Paul is almost mobbed by an angry crowd
- Put in prison... stripped... beaten... flogged... imprisoned... shackled...
- At about midnight... What is Paul doing... read Acts 16:25- 26.
- Saves the life of the Prison Guard! And he leads him to faith in Jesus!

Who wouldn't like to tap into some of that joy?

How did he find that kind of resilience... love!? Jailer! Incredible.

It wasn't just Paul... Silas is right there... who's that? He's you and me...

Anyone who, like Paul, is learning to live in a completely new mindset...

Philippians 2:5 Paul writes... "have the same mindset as Christ Jesus" phroneō

That's it learning to live from a radical new mindset!

This Series... TO LIVE IS CHRIST... that sums up the mindset...

The life that comes from living through that lens in our...

Relationships	Career	Pressure	Success
Money	School	Failure	

This letter is an invitation into that mindset... new way of seeing... everything

FOCUS. Today's passage introduces us to 3 key facets to Paul's mindset. A mindset of: Humility. Partnership. Growth.

SERVANT MINDSET. 1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus...

Not an apostle... but as a SERVANT of Jesus Christ.

Servant... Grk (doulos) translated literally means slave.

A doulos is someone at the bottom of the social hierarchy.

Being a servant is opposite to the status mindset of the world. Why use this?

Humility is foundational to the Jesus mindset... Philippians 2: 6 "who being in very nature God... made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant."

But don't we all want to be great in some way? Is that bad? How we Define!



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Mt 20:26–28 whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>27</sup> and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—<sup>28</sup> just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve...

Radical redefinition of greatness... Thru humility... Jesus fulfilled his destiny

1. v28 to give his life as a ransom for many.

The power of humility:

- Aligns us with the heart of God and culture heaven.
- Frees us from the competitive mindset... the need to be better, smarter...
- Frees us from being threatened by others success
- Protects our closest relationships (unity) from division
- Protects us from self hatred, self-pity, and self-centeredness
- Frees us from emotional/ psychological fragility
- The secret to living greatly

PARTNERSHIP MINDSET. 3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, 6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Partnership is a mindset... vs... I need to do this alone... I'm here to watch

Without humility this mindset is impossible...

For Paul as a leader it means Church is not the Paul show... watch me do it!

It's opposite to the CONSUMER MINDSET of our culture today.

- When you go into a restaurant do you want the chef to say "hey cook this"

But at church that is exactly what we do... EVERYONE PLAYS MINDSET!

1. Hey... who wants to lead this? Who wants to serve here?

Partnership, Grk (koinonia) - Fellowship... bond of relationship with purpose.

Relational... vs being utilitarian... full of affection and love. READ VSS 7-8

- V7 "I have you in my heart..."
- V7 All of you share in God's grace with me... ref to their sacrificial help.
- V8 God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus!

Purposeful... vs just friendship for friendship sake... higher purpose

1. v5 partnership in the gospel
2. Ch 2 examples thru Timothy/ Epaphroditus
3. The work of the gospel.



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ILLUS. "Keith/ Lucy" ... got involved... got to know people... serving.

GROWTH MINDSET. 9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, 10 so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ...

You really get to know Paul's mindset by getting into what he prayed for.

Paul's praying for their love to grow... but it's not like they don't already love!

- This letter is a thank you for the generous gift they sent to support him.
- He's saying... I see your love... but... KEEP GOING!! There's more!

Growth mindset confronts our complacency... "I have arrived mindset"

Growth mindset confronts our discouragement... "I can't change!"

Paul's confidence isn't in our ability to change ourself...

- 6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.
- God is working in us through the power of the Holy Spirit.

OUR GROWTH/ SUCCESS IN LIFE is measured by our growth in love.

Is our knowledge helping us love Jesus and others more deeply?

Do we have a growth mindset about love... spouse... God... ourselves?

Love + knowledge matures us past sentimentality - people pleasing.

More than just giving people what they want... its about giving them Jesus.