**“The Jesus Way of Living”**

Going deeper in Philippians 2:1-11

**INTRODUCTION**

The Apostle Paul has just finished lining out some of the ways that believers are called to live. He now turns to why they should do this.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.* 1 If you have received any encouragement from your relationship with Christ, if you have found any comfort in his love, if being in community in the Spirit means something to you, if you have any compassion and mercy 2 then make my joy complete by having the same love, by being united in spirit and mind. 3 Not let anything you do come from selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility selflessly prioritize the interests of others. 4 Each of us ought forget yourselves long enough so you can help others out. 5 Think of it this way; your go to example should be Jesus Christ. 6 He had equal status with God, but he did not cling to the advantages of his status, 7 but instead emptied himself and grabbed hold of the status of a bondservant and took human form. 8 As he lived out life as a human being he showed his humility by willingly dying a selfless and obedient death – even the worst kind of death-a crucifixion. 9 Because of his obedience to his calling in this world God the Father lifted him to the highest place and 10 gave him the name that is above every name so that every created being in heaven and on earth even those long dead and buried will bow in worship before Jesus Christ 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. Why do you think it is so important to be a community of faith that is “having the same love, being united in spirit and mind? How would this be a witness to the world?

2. Who in your life has been the greatness example of selfless humility? How was that expressed in their actions.

3. In what ways was the life of Jesus to be an example to the people in the church in Philippi?

4. What are some of the characteristics of Jesus that you are being called to grow in? If you are in a small group how can the members of the group help each other with this?

5. How is this type of life connected to generosity?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Pray for unity among believers and ask Jesus to show you what your part is in helping to build that unity.

\*Ask the Lord Jesus to show you the practical steps He wants you to take in becoming sacrificial and generous.

\*Who in your life needs examples of sacrificial and generous living? Ask the Spirit of God to give you the power to that example for them.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

Jesus lived a life of humility and sacrificial generosity. What are the practical ways you are being called to live this kind of life? Will you do that this week?