

Achieving unity, love, and “one mind” (Part 2)

Phil. 2:5-30

4/14/19 by Philip Pinto @ Village Bible Church (Series: What is a Disciple?)

Rightly interpreting God’s word? What was the author’s original intent and how does the Holy Spirit *still* speak through this to us today? (2 Tim. 2:15)

Answering the question: what is a disciple?

Read it in context!

- **Historical Context** – how the original reader understood it/ what historical events shape the text
 - **Literary Context** – how does it relate to passages around it? (The text’s meaning does NOT change based on your need!)
 - 2:1-30 = Admonishment #2 – A Submitted Mind – Walking in Unity
 - V. 1-4 defining/describing *koinonia*
 - V. 5-30 examples of *koinonia*
 - How does the structure of the text (Phil. 2) inform the meaning?
- I. **Importance** of **Koinonia**. (v. 1)
 - A. Koinonia is fellowship and participation with the church [which] must come from the **Holy Spirit**
 - II. **Essentials** of [*Koinonia*] (fellowship participation together with the Holy Spirit) (v. 2-4)
 - III. **Examples** of *Koinonia* (Christian love, unity, and single-mindedness) (v. 5-30)
 - A. Christ’s example (**5-11**)– counting others more significant than yourself. The ultimate expression of **humility!**
 1. These verses are a source of **Christology** (study/doctrine of Christ)
 2. The purpose of these verses is to demonstrate the ultimate **example** of:
 - i. Counting others more significant than yourself (2:3)

- ii. Looking to the **interests** of others more than self (2:4)
- B. Paul's example – ready to **be poured** out like a drink offering. (12-18)
 - 1. Work out your salvation (12c-13)
 - i. Jesus was **obedient**... unto death! (v. 8)
 - ii. Paul was absent now so...
 - iii. Be **diligent** in your Christian walk
 - 2. Do all things without grumbling or **questioning** (complaining) [amongst yourselves] (14)
 - i. Be blameless/innocent (15a)
 - ii. This is a **testimony** ("shine as lights") (15b)
 - iii. **Hold forth** the word of life (16)
 - 3. **Rejoice** in suffering (17-18)
- C. Timothy's example – genuinely concerned for the welfare of the church at Philippi over and above his own interests (19-24)
- D. Epaphroditus' example – nearly died for the work of Christ in support of Paul (25-30)
- What is the author's (Paul's) emphasis as revealed in the structure?

Through examples of *koinonia*, in the sense of participation together, he demonstrates how the Holy Spirit works through individual believers when we submit to His authority and work in unison as part of the visible Body of Christ, the church. There are four key parts of this:

- (1 & 2) "...being in **full accord** and of **one [same] mind**" (Phil. 2:2b)
- (3) "...in **humility** count others more significant than yourselves." (2:3b)
- (4) "... look not only to [your] own interests, but also to the **interests of others.**" (2:4)

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There are four key parts of this:

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[same] _____" (Phil. 2:2b)

(3) "...in _____ count others more significant than yourselves." (2:3b)

(4) "... look not only to [your] own interests, but also to the
_____. " (2:4)