Philippians 2:1-10 | Value Others Above Yourself

Getting Going

1. Settling in & Opening Prayer

2. Who is the most selfless person you know? What is it about them that makes them so selfless?

Review

1. Which of the previous 4 “one another” challenges (love, welcome, bear burdens, honour) has been the easiest to practice? Which has been the hardest? Why?

Digging Deeper

1. Philippians 2:1-11 is a profound text with an incredible amount of Christology. It is then very striking that the Christ Hymn is used as an example for how we are to practice humility and selflessness. How does this shape how we are meant to live out our relationships?

2. Paul uses Jesus as the model of valuing others above yourself. Read John 13:1-17, Luke 22:39-42, John 20:25-27. What does Jesus’ selflessness look like? How would you describe it or explain it to someone that isn’t familiar with Jesus?

3. Living selflessly is not simply doing what people want. Jesus refused an earthly kingdom, and did empty signs (i.e giving the people more bread following feeding the 5000 in John 6). Rather Jesus revealed his divinity and called them to eat the true bread which was his body and blood. Examine your own understanding of what it means to put others before yourself. Do you understand selflessness to be more about doing what others want or more about doing what is best for them?

Practical Preparation:

1. The text reminds us of what we have all received first from Christ before we live selflessly. What do you need to remind yourself of so that you can respond to Christ’s call in your life?

2. This text reveals our selfish hearts. We are called to do nothing out of selfish ambition, and not to seek our own glory. Rather, we are to put others first and to trust God to be the one to bring honour. What are some first steps you can do to live this out?

3. Who is someone in your life you have been putting yourself ahead of? How might you better love and serve them by putting what is best for them ahead of you.

Parting Prayer

1. Spend some time in prayer, reflecting upon Christ’s selflessness that we have benefited from. Pray also that it would inspire us to live as he did.

Optional Extra Question - Which prestigious award would feel the best to win and why?