

Mind Matters: #9, Living the Mind of Christ
Philippians 2:1-11
November 17, 2019

Take-away from series: We need to learn, have, and live the mind of Christ. In short, this is humility and sacrifice.

1. *Learning* the mind of Christ:

C—Christ marked out a pathway for us of serving and suffering now, followed by glory later (Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 8-10 and 14-16; Hebrews 12:1-3; 1 Peter 2:21-23)

H—Humility toward God and also others is essential to the mind of Christ (Matthew 23:12; Philippians 2:3, 8; Colossians 3:12; James 3:13; 1 Peter 5:5)

R—Relationships are of utmost importance to God and should be a priority for us as well (John 13:34-35; 17:11, 20-23; Ephesians 2:14-16; 4:1-6; Philippians 2:1-4; 4:1-3; plus all the “one another passages”)

I—Interests of others go before my own interests (Philippians 2:3-4, 19-21; Luke 6:31; Romans 12:5; 15:1-3; 1 Corinthians 10:24, 31-33)

S—Self-denial, serving, sacrifice, and suffering are the “*S*”ence of the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:1-11; Mark 8-10).

T—This is not only the mind of Christ but is also the way of the cross


and the desire of the Spirit (Mark 8-10; Galatians 5:16-18).

2. *Having* the mind of Christ. Only God can renew our minds (Romans 12:2; Philippians 2:1), so we must trust him and pray. The CHRIST memory device is a way of cooperating with him.

3. *Living* the mind of Christ. The setting in which it is most needed is our relationships (see vv. under **R** above)

God wants more than getting along. He wants his people to be in “one accord” (Acts 1:14; 2:46; 4:24; 5:12 and esp. 15:25). The word means “with one mind, purpose, or impulse; unanimously.” *God* can bring us to one accord (Romans 15:5-6, same word, translated “one mind” in NIV). We might think this entails everyone having the same view on things, but that cannot be the case. Not only do we see many differences among us, but these words (Romans 15:5-6) are part of the same context as Romans 14, where the Christians at Rome clearly had differences of opinion on matters.

Instead, the key is to have the same attitude of mind that Christ had (Romans 15:5). “Same attitude of mind” is literally “think the same” (NASB), but again, this cannot mean we all view everything alike. A clue to the meaning is found in our mind of Christ passage where the exact same phrase is used (Philippians 2:2, NASB, NIV says “like-minded”; the phrase also appears in Romans 12:16; 2 Corinthians 13:11; and Philippians 4:2). The way we “think the same” is by having the same attitude in us and among us that Christ had, namely, humility, letting go of our rights, serving, sacrificing, and suffering. This is the mind of Christ.

What  With whom do I most need to be living the mind of Christ?
would it look like for me to do so?