

1. Motivate

When have you wanted to be first in line?

A video introduction to the lesson is available. View it at https://watch.liberty.edu/media/t/0_lie1eiaw

2. Transition

It's our nature to want to be ahead of everyone else

- Paul wrote that we shouldn't always want to be first
- Today we look at how to humbly place the needs of others before your own.

3. Bible Study

3.1 Look Out for Needs of Others

Listen for how to act.

Philippians 2:1-4 (NIV) If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

What four spiritual experiences become the basis for humility and unity?

In what way would humility and unity help fulfil Paul's joy?

How does Paul describe what it means to be like-minded?

What circumstances in life tempt you to ignore the instructions in these verses?

How does humility contribute to unity?

When have you benefited from someone who looked out for your interests?

What does humility look like in relationship to others?

How can we value others over ourselves in practical ways?

3.2 Jesus Is Our Example

Listen for Christ's attitude.

Philippians 2:5-8 (NIV) Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross!

How does Christ's example of humility challenge our natural self-centeredness?

What did Christ set aside when He became a man?

How is Christ the best example of humility and unselfishness for us?

Why did Christ take on the limitations of being human even though He was of the same nature as God?

How did Jesus' submission even to the point of death demonstrate strength?

How does Christ's example of humility challenge our natural self-centeredness?

3.3 Live without Complaining and Arguing

Listen for Paul's admonition.

Philippians 2:12-15 (NIV) Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed--not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence--continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. 14 Do everything without complaining or arguing, 15 so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe

Who is the energy source for effective Christian living?

What did Paul appeal to the Philippians to avoid?

Instead, how were they to act?

What strategies have helped you fight the urge to grumble, complain, or argue?

Consider this process of dealing with a problem that causes fear or aggravation

How will NOT complaining and arguing encourage others to be drawn to Him?

How can you help new believers "shine like stars" for God's kingdom?

Application

Small steps.

- Park in the worst space in the church parking lot next Sunday. (Extra credit if it's raining.)
- Come early and set up the room for your next small group meeting.
- Tell someone how much you appreciate his or her gifts or skills in a particular area.

Medium steps.

- Share a story of a major failure from your past.
- Confess your need for the gospel.
- Volunteer in a homeless ministry and treat those people as you would treat governors and kings.

Large steps.

- Offer a sincere apology to someone you've hurt.
- Share your desire to be forgiven.
- Meet someone's need with a large sum of money ... and do it anonymously.

Word Search

- ACT
- AMBITION
- ARGUING
- ATTITUDE
- BLAMELESS
- CHILDREN
- CHRIST
- COMFORT
- COMPASSION
- COMPLAINING
- COMPLETE
- CONCEIT
- CROOKED
- DEPRAVED
- ENCOURAGEMENT
- FAULT
- FELLOWSHIP
- GENERATION
- GOD
- GOOD
- HUMILITY
- INTERESTS

W A R G U I N G E S E N G L N N R H N E N O S H F
 J I M O D N N L C D O S N O I T I B M A O E S I E
 O S L D E M I N S O U A I V D V C H S I F L E S T
 U S T L V Y C V S S M T N E M E G A R U O C N E S
 D L B A A R O A E I A P I H S W O L L E F H R R E
 O M I F R T M J L R O U A T Y O U R S E L V E S P
 O N G A P S P T E D S R L S T R O F M O C H D P U
 G E N U E O L N M S L E P I S A N T N P T U N I R
 C H I L D R E N A M H U M I L I T Y S O N W E R P
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 C R O O K E D C D W O E O C S N H E I S D H N S E
 C O N C E I T O H T R K W A E S D H N W L A C O N

- JESUS
- JOY
- LOOK
- LOVE
- NOTHING
- OTHERS
- PURE
- PURPOSE
- SAME
- SELFISH
- SHINE
- SHOULD
- SPIRIT
- STARS
- TENDERNESS
- UNITED
- UNIVERSE
- VAIN
- WILL
- WITHOUT
- WORKS
- YOURSELVES



Humph! Some nincompoop didn't **yield** to their instructions. That's how the words got all in a kerfuffle. They go up, down, right, left and diagonal. You can find help at <https://tinyurl.com/ycpm9q2x> Oh, yes, I hear my sister said you didn't owe that book report. She's talking poppycock!