

TOWARD A RADICAL UNITY

TRU-02 “Love ... Humility ... Sacrifice”

PAUL’S LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS

06/28/2026

PHIL 2:1-2 [VOICE] “***IF you find any comfort from being in the Anointed, IF His love brings you some encouragement, IF you experience true companionship with the Spirit, IF His tenderness and mercy fill your heart; then, brothers and sisters, here is one thing that would complete my joy—come together as one in mind and spirit and purpose, sharing in the same love.***”

CODE: **JOY** (12) **LOVE** (07) **HUMILITY** (27) **SACRIFICE** (15) **UNITY** (42)

There are “5” characteristics that saturate PAUL’S LETTER. Each one works with, and leads to the others. When the LETTER is reviewed with these in mind a pattern can be found... **beginning with a foundation of “JOY”** and leading toward a goal of radical **“UNITY.”**

JOY must be the foundation. Without the inward reality of **JOY** from the presence of the Holy Spirit, NONE of the others would be possible.

Because we have **“JOY”** we can **“LOVE”** unconditionally...

- We can practice **“HUMILITY”** toward others as we serve in the Body...
- We can **“SACRIFICE”** for the good of others in service to the Lord...
- THIS will allow us to choose **“UNITY”** instead of self-interest / division / isolation / or strife.

LOVE: [**AGAPE**]– **Unconditional / Fully on the Decision of the Giver**

1:7 “It is right for me to feel this way about you all, ***because I hold you in my heart...***”

1:8-9 “For God is my witness, ***how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.***”

⁹ And it is my prayer ***that your love may abound more and more...***”

1:16 “***The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel.***”

4:1 Therefore, my ***brothers, whom I love and long for,*** my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, ***my beloved.***

HUMILITY: [**TAPEINOO**] – To lower the mind / ***think of self as lower*** – the word is always an action done **BY** the subject **NOT** done **TO** them - to the Greeks this is always a negative ... ***In the NT it is always positive...***

1:20-21 “...as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, ***but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death.***

For to me ... to live is Christ... and to die is gain.”

1:24 “***But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account.***”

1:27 “Only ***let your manner of life be worthy of the Gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the Gospel,***”

2:3 “***Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.***”

2:5-8 “Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though He was in the form of God, ***did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,*** ⁷ but emptied Himself, by ***taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.***

⁸ And being found in human form, ***He humbled himself*** by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

2:12 “Therefore, my beloved, ***as you have always obeyed,*** so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,

2:14 “***Do all things without grumbling or disputing...***”

2:20-21 “For I have no one like him [Timothy], ***who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare.*** ²¹ For they all seek their own interests, ***not those of Jesus Christ.***”

2:29-30 “So receive him [Epaphroditus] in the Lord with all joy, and honor such men, for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life...”

3:1 “Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you.”

3:3 “For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh...”

3:7-8 “But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, In order that I may gain Christ...”

3:10 “...that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and may share His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death...”

3:12 “Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

3:20 “who will transform our [humble] body to be like His glorious body, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself.”

4:2-3 “I entreat Euodia, and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the Gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.”

4:5 “Let your reasonableness be known to everyone...”

4:6 “... in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”

4:11-12 “for I have learned, in whatever situation I am, to be content.
¹² I know how to be brought low [humbled], and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.”

4:13 “I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.”

SACRIFICE: [THUSOS] – Fig: To offer to suffer / pay a price / even to die... on behalf of another that they may be saved / increased / honored...

1:13 “...so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.”

1:16 “The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the Gospel.”

1:20-21 “...as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death.²¹ For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”

1:23 “I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better [for me].”

1:29 “For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in Him but also suffer for His sake...”

2:4 “Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”

2:7-8 “...but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

⁸ And being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

2:17 “Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.”

2:27 “...Indeed he [Epaphroditus] was ill, near to death.”

2:30 “...for he [Epaphroditus] nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.”

3:13 Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead.”

4:16 “Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again.”

4:18 “I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.”