

# Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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## The Mind Of Christ

(Jerry Fite)

Paul writes, *“Have this mind in you, which was also in Christ Jesus...”* (Philippians 2:5). To think it is possible to have a mindset which Jesus manifested is inspiring. To know God demands it in me is sobering. What is it?

Paul tells us beginning in verse 3: *“...doing nothing through faction or through vain glory, but in lowliness of mind each counting other better than himself; not looking each of you to his own things, but each of you also to the things of others”* (Philippians 2:3-4). The mind anchored in humility will keep one from promoting his own way above others, causing faction. It will extract the sense of entitlement from our inflated balloon of vain glory. Humility is not viewing other people as they are, but as we count them to be. You may be a far better reader than another, causing you to think that there is no way the other is better than yourself. But that is not what the mindset of Christ is. We count the other better, regardless of their talent or lack thereof, sacrificing ourselves to serve their needs.

### THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS

Jesus, greater than all, manifested the mindset of sacrificing self for the needs of others. He *“emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant...”* (Philippians 2:7). He *“humbled himself, becoming obedient even unto the death, yea, the death of the cross”* (Philippians 2:8). He could have continued to soak up the glory and praise of Heaven, but through the eyes of humility saw our need. We needed a Saviour, and the sinless Son of God came to fill that role perfectly as the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29).

### THE EXAMPLE OF TIMOTHY

Timothy had the mindset of Christ. Paul said so. *“For I have no man likeminded, who will care truly for your state. For they all seek their own, not the things of Jesus Christ”* (Philippians 2:20-21). Being humbled enough to care - to care truly for the state of others is what having the mind of Christ is about. Timothy demonstrated it by serving Paul in furthering the Gospel. Sometimes “a Timothy” stands out because there is no one around who has the mind of Christ. How sad! Timothy tied together man’s true needs with the Gospel, and busied himself in furthering the cause of

Christ in man’s hearts. How commendable!

### THE EXAMPLE OF EPAPHRODITUS

Paul wrote that Epaphroditus was the Philippians’ *“messenger and minister to my need”* (Philippians 2:25). Epaphroditus served the Philippians by being their messenger, and he served Paul on behalf of the Philippians by seeing to his needs in prison. Humility to serve as a messenger was his mindset. In doing so he saw to the needs of the Philippians and Paul.

Epaphroditus was so void of the sense of self in that he regarded the work of Christ as more important than his own welfare. Paul says his dear brother, fellow-worker, and fellow-soldier should be honored *“because for the work of Christ, he came nigh unto death, hazarding his life to supply that which was lacking in your service to me”* (Philippians 2:30). It is not about me and my comfort, but it is about others - Christ, the Philippians and Paul.

Have you clothed yourself with humility to manifest the mind of Christ in your life? You MUST!!!