

PHILIPPIANS STUDY GUIDE

Assignment...read Philippians Chapter 2: 1-11. Having warned his friends that they not be swayed by those preaching an incomplete Gospel, Paul begins with an “If”...building on the phrase he used in prior verse “your manner of life” In the first 4 verses, he finishes “his If” by giving a glimpse of how a Christian should live. How does his word speak to you?

The Essence of Discipleship...at the heart of Paul’s appeal is the core of what it means to follow Jesus: humility. Why does Paul, other writers, lift humility to such a level of importance?

The Descent of Jesus...Paul follows in the next 6 verses with what may be the most profound words he ever wrote. They were used in the Early Church as a hymn for worship. Try speaking aloud slowly as if you are using them in prayer rather than reading them as a passage. Pause after each verse and ponder its significance...

“did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited”

“he emptied himself, taking the form of a servant”

“becoming human, he humbled himself”

“was obedient to the point of death, even crucifixion”

“God exalted him and gave him the name above all names”

“at his name, every knee shall bow, every tongue confess”

“that Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father”

Life Lessons Learned...

As you listened to Dr. Shelton’s presentation, what insights or life lessons did you learn?