

Favorite Scripture – Pastor Carl Haynes (2021) 2

Scripture – Book(s) and Chapter(s):

Philippians 2: 3-11



Scripture passage(s):

3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; 7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! 9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Why this is my favorite scripture:

This is another favorite Scripture passage because in it the Apostle Paul challenges us as followers of Jesus to live our lives by His example of humility. We are called to do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit. Instead, we are to consider others more significant than ourselves. Now why would we do such a thing? Because Jesus did. We are to have the same attitude toward others that Jesus had toward us. In obedience to His father, Jesus set aside the splendors of heaven and become one of us by confining his glory in a human body. In His limited capacity Jesus humbly showed us what the Father is like. He demonstrated God's love for us by living and giving his life for us. His death on the cross paid for our sin. His Resurrection and bodily Ascension back to heaven proved his power over sin, death and the devil. One day he will come again in power and glory and every knee will bow in submission to Him. Until then, God calls those of us who believe in Jesus as our Lord and Savior to imitate his humble way of life by putting the needs of others before our own. Mark 10: 45 Jesus tells us that *The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.* As we humbly serve others, our prayer should be that the light of Christ will be seen and we have the opportunity to share His love and our faith with them.

What it provides to me:

This passage gives us **guidance** for living our lives; **focus** for how to live in regards to others; and **encouragement** as we look forward to Christ's return in glory.

What you hope it brings to others:

Dear Heavenly Father, grant me grace to live my life in humility, following Jesus' example. May my life of service be used to bring others to know you. In Jesus' name. Amen.