



This Week's Icebreaker Questions:

- What was your dream car when you were younger?
- If you had to only choose one, would you rather have a dirty car on the inside but spotless on the outside, or would you choose to have a pristine car on the inside but always dirty on the outside?

Sermon Specific Questions:

1. We see in Philippians 2:1 a very powerful appeal by Paul for unity – listing out encouragement, comfort, participation in the Spirit, and affection & sympathy. Spend some time as a group going through each of these blessings mentioned in verse one and discuss how they are richly experienced through unity in Christ.
2. Read Philippians 2:1-2. Paul says that the completion of his joy isn't contingent on anything that he can personally do, but rather it is based on how the Philippians engage and interact. How do these verses, as well as 1 Thess. 2:19-20, speak to the idea of joy being connected to evangelism (reaching others for Jesus) and discipleship (helping them grow in that relationship)?
3. In verse 2 Paul expresses the terminology "being of the same mind" or being like-minded. In a culture that emphasizes and provides numerous outlets for individual expression, what does verse 2 look like in our modern context? Paul uses this expression 10 times in the book of Philippians alone, which shows the reader how important this was to Paul. Why should it still be held with such significant weight even now?
4. When does living out Philippians 2:3-4 become difficult for you? Why is humility a virtue we are at times hesitant to pursue, even though we read about it in verse 3, as well as other passages like James 4:6, Proverbs 3:34, & 1 Peter 5:5-6? What are some practical things you can do this week to position yourself in a way to appropriately and effectively look to the interest of others and live out verse 4?
5. How can applying Philippians 2:1-4 to our lives be a powerful witness and ultimately be effective in reaching more people for Jesus?