3 Priorities of a Healthy Church
October 11, 2026

TEXT—Phil. 2:1–11

MAIN IDEA—A healthy church is built on shared life in Christ, humble unity, and practically following Christ's example.

1. **JOY THROUGH CHRIST-CENTERED RELATIONSHIPS**— (**Phil. 2:1)**

Here in **V1** Paul appeals to blessings the Philippians already share in Christ.

Encouragement in Christ — Christ himself is the rallying point; belonging to Christ changes how we treat one another.

Comfort from love — is the love of God experienced personally, and the love of believers experienced practically.

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Participation in the Spirit — is the fellowship created by the indwelling Holy Spirit; every believer shares the same Spirit (**1 Cor. 12:13**).

Affection and sympathy — tender mercy; the deep, gut-level compassion believers are to show one another.

Applications—Encourage one discouraged believer this week — a call, a note, a visit. You have received "encouragement in Christ"; pass it on. *Pray with someone, not just for someone.

***Build one relationship outside your usual circle in the church.**

Rom. 15:5–7

2. UNITY THROUGH HUMILITY— (Phil. 2:2–4)

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*Humility is not thinking little of yourself or denying your God-given worth. Humility is consciously choosing to: "*count others more significant*"— treat their needs, time, interests as worth more than your own. *Unity is not the absence of conflict; it is the presence of humility.

Applications—In your next disagreement, listen fully before defending your preference (Ask a question before making a statement). Share credit generously; receive correction humbly. *Identify one concrete need in the church or in another member's life this week — and meet it without being asked.

Eph. 4:1–3

3. HUMILITY THROUGH FOLLOWING CHRIST'S EXAMPLE— (Phil. 2:5–11).

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*Don’t merely "think about Christ's example" — collectively choose this mindset among yourselves, as a body. The humility of Christ is not only ours to admire; it’s ours to embrace and imitate because we are in Christ Jesus.

Jn. 1:1; Col. 1:15–19

***He’s thinking of others, not himself!**

2 Cor. 8:9

***He serves others.**

***He sacrificed his life for others.**

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Matt. 23:12; Is. 45:23

Rom. 10:9-10; 1 Pet .5:5; Gal. 5:13; Jn. 15:12-13

Applications—Use your status, resources, and gifts to serve others, not to be served. *Accept one assignment this month that no one will notice or applaud. *Obey Christ where obedience is costly — in your finances, your relationships, your tongue.

Mk. 10:45

CALL TO ACTION

***Encourage someone. Find one discouraged believer and build them up, out of the encouragement you have received in Christ.**

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***Put someone else's interests ahead of a preference. Identify one place you have been guarding your own way — and yield it this week.**

***Do one concrete act of Christlike service. Take the low place: the unnoticed job, the task nobody wants, serve, sacrifice in Jesus' name.**