**Sermon Notes**

**“Imitating the Incarnation”**

**Philippians 2:1–11**

**1 If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became 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 confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

**v.3**

**i)** Selfish ambition = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**ii)** Vain conceit = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**v. 5**Attitude = *phroneite* = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**v. 6**Nature = *morphe* = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**v.7
Mark 10:45
45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”**

**v.8**

*True power \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in order*

*to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**Imitating the Incarnation**

Philippians 2 holds up the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus followers are to imitate.

**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 confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

**Questions for Discussion**

1. How would you summarize this message for those who didn’t hear it?
2. When it comes to your attitude, are you more tempted to selfish ambition or vain conceit?
3. If Nietzsche’s idea of the “will to power” was incorrect, what do you think lies at the core of human motivation? Is there a biblical truth or Scripture you would use to support your idea?
4. Do you believe “power corrupts”? Why or why not?
5. In what area of your life do you find it most challenging to practice the pattern of Philippians 2:1-11? (e.g. marriage, finances, workplace, church?)
6. Read James 4:10, Matthew 23:12, 1 Peter 5:6, Proverbs 29:23. How have you seen this biblical principles play out in your life or the lives of those you know well?
7. What step could you take to putting this message into practice?