



## **Christmas Spirit Christmas Message**

Philippians 2:5-8, p. 980

December 22, 2019

Pastor Mickey Klink

### **Introduction**

In this Christmas service we seek the Christmas spirit in the lowly humility of Jesus Christ.

### **The Text: Philippians 2:5-8**

- 1) Christmas Spirit is the Christian experience of humility and love (v. 5a).
  
- 2) Christmas Spirit is provided and practiced by Jesus Christ (v. 5b).
  
- 3) Christmas spirit is the incarnation – glory to God in the lowest (vv. 6-8).
  - a) Christ was willing to deny his own rights and position of privilege for others (v. 6)*
  - b) Christ was willing to enter into the broken condition of others (v. 7).*
  - c) Christ was willing to suffer for the good of others (v. 8).*
  
- 4) Christmas spirit, at least the Christian version, is a fruit of the gospel.

*What does Christmas spirit look like?*

- a) A humility that expresses itself in love.*
- b) A humility that expresses itself in service and sacrifice.*
- c) A humility that expresses itself in worship.*

### **Response**

Let this be our song this Christmas: “Glory to God in the lowest!”

## Sunday Text Questions for “Christmas Spirit” (Philippians 2)

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- 1) Starter Question: When our culture speaks about “the Christmas spirit,” about what are they speaking?
- 2) Read Philippians 2:1-11 aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) How can we obey Paul’s command in v. 3, and what would such actions look like in practice?
- 4) Thinking about v. 4, how should the Christian or the church “look to the interests of others?”
- 5) What does Paul mean when he says that Jesus “did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped” (v. 6)?
- 6) What do vv. 7-8 explain about the person of Jesus and the ministry of his incarnation?
- 7) What would make Jesus, who was fully God, humble himself and not claim the rights and privileges of God?
- 8) How might this text be a Christmas text and teach us about the meaning of Christmas?
- 9) How might “the Christmas spirit” be best explained as “glory to God in the lowest?”
- 10) How does the humility of Christ minister to you and encourage you to minister to others this Christmas?

**Further study this week:** Reflect and meditate on the Christmas story in Luke and Matthew: Luke 1:1-25 (Mon); Luke 1:26-56 (Tues); Luke 1:57-2:21 (Wed); Matthew 1 (Thurs); Matthew 2 (Fri).