

## This is who we are. Part 1—Humility

Text: Ephesians 4:1-2

### Warming Up

#### Questions:

1. Tell us about a humiliating kitchen catastrophe you've had with guests coming over.
2. Who is someone in your life that demonstrated for you the virtue of humility?

### Digging In

Read **Philippians 2:1-4**.

#### Questions:

1. What are some of the ways Paul says his joy can be completed?
2. Why do you think Paul thought it important to begin a call to humility with being united to Christ?
3. What, practically, does humility do in Philippians 2?
4. Where do you see a lack of humility today among the people of God?

In **Philippians 2:3** we are told that humility *values* others *above* ourselves. In the Roman world, everyone had an assigned value, or status. Kings were over citizens were over immigrants were over slaves. The call to value others in Scripture didn't mean seeing others as morally superior, but rather assigning them an honorable status, whether that person was royalty or the slave of royalty. This was the mark of humility: giving others a higher status than the world gave them.

#### Questions:

1. What difference does it make that we are told to "value others above ourselves" rather than "devalue ourselves beneath others?"
2. Who in our culture is devalued?
3. How do you think we can practice humility by giving value to the devalued?

### Sending Out

Read **Ephesians 4:1-2**.

#### Questions:

1. What does it tell you that the first imperative of living a life worthy of Christ's calling is humility?
2. What do you think humility looks like when we disagree with others in the church?
3. What do you think humility looks like in our relationships with our neighbors?
4. Who might God be calling you to practice humility with?

"I urge you to live a life worthy..." in **Ephesians 4:1** has two important words in it.

1. "Live a life" is the word *paripateo*, which means "to walk".
2. "Urge" is the word *parakaleo*, which is a compound word meaning "to speak...alongside."

#### Questions:

1. How does humility allow us to speak to each other while continuing to walk with each other?
2. How can we make humility more of a value in our shared lives together in the church?

### Closing

Take a moment in silence to come before God and ask the question, "What word or phrase or idea or moment does God want me to remember from this morning and carry with me this week?"

Close with prayer.