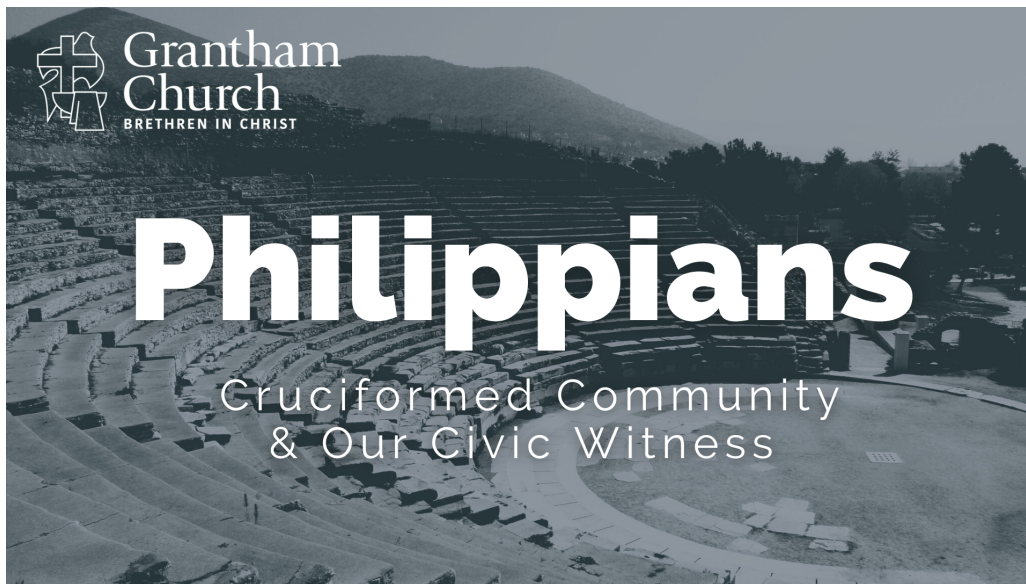


**Philippians (4 of 8)**  
Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the [recent sermons page](#) at our website and at the [Grantham Church Podcast](#) the following day, along with the sermon slides and small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

**Sunday, September 1st, 2024**



**Series Focus:** In his final days on earth, the Apostle Paul wrote a heartfelt letter to the church in Philippi from a prison cell in Rome. What does it look like to be faithful to Jesus in a world of competing allegiances? Is it possible for the church to remain calm, be at peace, and live with joy in a society that is seriously lacking it? And how do we live as “citizens of heaven” in a world seemingly going to hell? In this series, we will be encouraged to view all of life through the lens of the cross and to live out our faith together in humility, service, and love—all the while anticipating the Lord’s return.

**Sermon Title:** Our Mindset as Christians

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 23:11-12; Mark 10:42-45; Philippians 2:5-18

**Sermon Focus:** According to Paul, if our civic conduct and political life is going to reflect Christ and the gospel, then we must have the same mindset of Jesus as we embody his teachings and practices. In the fourth message of our series, Pastor David invites us to follow the example of our crucified Lord by cultivating a cross-centered attitude that is humble, long-suffering, and willing to trust the way of the Kingdom.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Begin by reading Philippians 2:5-11 silently to yourself. Then have someone in the group read it aloud. This is believed to be a poem or an ancient “hymn” that Paul includes in his letter. What jumps out at you about this passage? What does it say about Jesus? What does it say to us about how we should follow him?
2. Have you ever thought about the significance of Paul including a hymn or song in his letter? Are there hymns/songs about Jesus that are meaningful to you because they remind you of who he is and what he has done for you? If so, share how and why the hymn/song means so much to you in your walk with Jesus.
3. The example of Jesus, as mentioned in the Christ hymn, is at the heart of Paul’s letter to the Philippians. He says that their civic and political life should reflect their commitment to Christ and the gospel (1:27), and then he points them to how Jesus lived (2:6-11). He says that our mindset should reflect Jesus’ own way of thinking and living. Paul emphasizes the *humility* of Christ—how he did not flaunt his divinity, how he served others, and ultimately how he died. Read 1 Corinthians 1:18. Why does the way of Christ seem foolish to some people? How would you describe the power and wisdom of the cross of Christ?
4. In Matthew 23:11-12, Jesus said, “The greatest among you must be a servant. But those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” Paul said that is what God the Father did for Jesus. He exalted Christ because he humbled himself (2:9-11). How have you seen God do this for you? How have you seen him do this for other followers of Jesus?
5. Think about your witness in every area of your life. Do you think your civic conduct and political life reveal a willingness to give up your privileges and humble yourself to serve others? In what ways can you reflect more of Christ in humility and service to others? For example, what does this look like at home, at your job, on social media, in the church, and in the public square?
6. How do you see the church in America not reflecting the attitude of Christ and trusting in the way of the cross these days? Take a few minutes to confess those things aloud. How is the Spirit inviting your group to pray for the continued health of our congregation this election year? Also, how can you pray for the future of the church in America? Please close in prayer about these things.