

# TALKING POINTS

## JOY - LIVE LIKE JESUS

### LEANING IN

Living in peace - how we deal with conflict contributes greatly to how much joy we have in our lives. Philippians has a formula for how we should deal with life together. In Philippians, Paul is saying to live in peace, we must be moving in the same direction – unity.

Paul uses 4 expressions that describe unity everywhere -

Like-Minded  
One In Love  
One In Spirit  
One In Purpose

This is God's call on every aspect of your life. Our purpose in life is to show the love of Christ towards each other.

Read Philippians 2:1-2

Why is there so little unity in our divided society?

### LIVING IT OUT

In Philippians, Paul talks about how the unity of believers brings joy - not only to them, but Paul as well. Paul also talks about four things which destroy this kind of unity (and in turn, the joy which comes with it):

**Inappropriate Competition** - when we have a spirit of inadequacy, we can inappropriately compare and compete with others - even those we're close to. The answer is understanding your worth in Jesus – you are worth God's Son to God.

Read Philippians 2:3, James 4:1-2

What does inappropriate competition do to relationships?

**Pride/Conceit** - the bible says our pride precedes our destruction. The solution is to humble ourselves.

Read Proverbs 16:18, Philippians 2:3

Are there ways pride can surface in your life and you don't even know it's there?

**Not Valuing Others** - we can't consider others as inconsequential or take them for granted. We have to look for the opportunity to breathe value into others lives. So, how do look out for others interests? You pay attention, notice needs.

Read Philippians 2:4

Do you know someone you could breathe value into? Are you someone who needs encouragement?

**A Lack Of Christlikeness** - to be like Christ is to be a *servant*. Three things jump off the page about Jesus: One – He did not demand His rights. Two – serving was an attitude, not a platitude. Three – He was willing to sacrifice for the benefit of others. Godly servants aren't choosy about their jobs, they just simply obey their master.

Read Philippians 2:5-8

Are you placing conditions on what God can do through you?