

DEVOTIONAL

Philippians 2 vs. 5 “For let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus”

What does this mean, and what are the implications for us? We see at the start of this verse a command, and that is to “let this mind” that is that we must choose this mind or allow this mind to be in us. It is a choice to take on this mindset rather than the mindset of the world. What is the mind that we are to take on? It is no less that Christ’s mind and His attitudes.

This mind: There are several meanings to this word that all fit this statement made regarding the mind. It is to have understanding, to be wise, it also encompasses the idea to think of one’s self modestly and to not let one’s opinion of himself exceed the bounds of modesty. We see another meaning in this word and that is to be of the same mind, i.e. agreed together, cherish the same views, to be harmonious.

“Which was also in Christ Jesus” What was the mind that was in Christ Jesus?

Philippians 2 vs.7 - 8 Paul talking about Jesus Christ says that “He made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Himself the form of a servant; He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross” Christ who is God and has a name above all names put this off and made Himself of no reputation. He did not need to impress anyone with intellect, power or wealth, but was content in who He was. If we are putting on Christ’s mind then we are also to make ourselves of no reputation not seeking power or position but we are to be content knowing who we are in Christ Jesus.

Secondly we see the Creator of all things humbling Himself to come and serve that which He had created. This is totally unheard of in human history that the King would serve his subjects, humbling himself to the lowest position in the kingdom. If we have the mind of Christ in us we will have no problem humbling ourselves to serve all people irrespective of their status, religion and opinion of us. Col 1vs.27 says “Christ in you the hope if glory” That is Christ’s indwells every believer and His nature and character will be evident in us as He abides in us and we in Him.

The third thing that we see is that we are to be of the same mind, that is of one mind. We have Christians who have varying opinions on things which is fine until it differs from the mind of Christ as revealed to us in the Scriptures. In this area we are to have one mind, being Christ’s mind. For example Luke 19 and verse 10 says this; “For the Son of man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

The love of Christ was such that He was humble enough to die on a cross – an excruciating obedience that brought salvation to mankind. Are we willing to put on the mind of Christ and humble ourselves being of no reputation for the sake of Christ and the salvation of others?

COUNTRY IN FOCUS

ZIMBABWE



This year has been a different one with the Challenge Newspaper, we are glad to have been receiving all editions as they came. The Challenge has been received in Zimbabwe with open hands by churches and individuals. It has been one of the best tools that we are using in the ministry, the Challenge does not stay for more than 3 days in our office after we receive them and we have received responses from all over the country and throughout Southern Africa as well. We also received calls from Nigeria concerning the Challenge indicating their desire to receive more of the newspaper.



Jabulani Mudenda distributing the Challenge newspapers

Many people have rededicated their lives to Jesus through the Challenge, one pastor who had been distributing the Challenge in schools, hospitals and prisons had this to say “I’ve been a Pastor for the past 29 years and have struggled to obtain gospel literature but I came across the Challenge and it changed my life in the ministry completely, I’ve even started distributing it to Schools, prisons and hospitals and many souls have been added to my church through the places that I’ve distributed the Challenge to”.

Another lady who owns a boutique in the city had this to say about the Challenge as well: “I needed some literature to put on my customer desk in my shop and I’d been struggling to find anything that was suitable, but when I came across the Challenge all my customers always delight in coming back for more, thank you for the Challenge, its changing lives in Zimbabwe”.

One pastor from Kariba, which is 800km away from Bulawayo where the Challenge has its distribution office, had this to say as well “I haven’t come across a newspaper that had so many testimonies and that shows the power of Jesus. When I first read
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Locals enjoying reading the Challenge newspaper

the testimonies in the Challenge I prayed that I could get more of this newspaper and share with so many brethren so they can also see the mighty power of Jesus working in so many people's lives; for me the Challenge has been working for me in every edition".

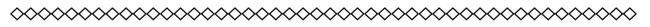
A footballer in one of the big teams in the city had this to say as well "I didn't like going to church much but I came across the Challenge and I got interested in the Sports section and I read a testimony of one sportsperson and it changed my life, it brought about a turning point in my life".

Another great achievement that was witnessed through the Challenge, we can testify that a church was established through the Challenge, an employee who works with World Vision in one of the remote parts of the country saw a copy of the Challenge and says: "I haven't seen a newspaper like this, I read it and shared it with my colleagues and we decided to start prayer meetings each evening which has flourished into a church, we then contacted the distribution office and they helped us with more copies and

invited more people to join us with the help of the Challenge". One member of the church says "I came to the Lord through the Challenge Newspaper and now I need a Bible so that I can get to know more about this Jesus that they talk about in the Challenge".

Lastly, on behalf of the Pastors, Churches, Hospitals, Schools, Prisons and the individuals that the Newspaper is distributed by, I'd like to thank Carl Carmody for having a big heart, for facilitating the distribution of the Challenge in Zimbabwe, for always supporting its availability, we just want to let you know that your funds are not going in vain, many souls are being touched by the Challenge Newspaper, may God continue to increase your territories.

*Rev Jabulani Mudenda
Multi Ministries Zimbabwe*



POINTS TO PONDER

- Pray for the appointment of our first Director for the U.S.A. in Eric Whitmer and his wife Caren. They are very excited about this new role for them as a couple. Please pray for the raising of their support as they send out their personal support letters to friends and churches. We do praise the Lord that about 65% of their support has already been promised.
- We are also looking to appoint Byron Smith and his wife Thereza as another Challenge Representative in the U.S. State of Alabama. Again we need much prayer for his personal support.
- Pray for the preparation for the Soccer World Cup Edition of the paper. Already we are looking at a total print run of over a million papers, if we can get the funding to do it.
- We praise the Lord for the tremendous response to the Challenge newspaper in Zimbabwe with 30,000 papers lasting only three days. Please pray with us that we will be able to fund the increase in the papers to somewhere near the 100,000 that have been requested.
- Another praise point is in Lightning Ridge, in N.S.W., the new Challenge newspaper stand placed in the local I.G.A. supermarket saw 100 papers taken in two days. Pray for these people reading the paper.
- Praise the Lord for all that He is doing through the Challenge paper and for the future opportunities that He is presenting. We also praise the Lord for your partnership in this work.



MY RESPONSE

Post to: Challenge Literature Fellowship, PO Box 978, Cloverdale WA 6985 or Fax to **(08) 9453 3006**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

with God's help I would like to be a partner in supporting the ministry at Challenge in the following way(s):

Prayer: Please send me updated prayer information

Financial: Please receive my: Monthly Quarterly Yearly One time contribution of:

\$50 \$75 \$100 \$200 Other: \$ _____

Credit Card: Visa Mastercard

Credit Card #: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Name on card: _____

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[]/[]

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