

# What is the Mind of Christ?

## Scriptures:

1 Corinthians 2:16 "For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ."

Romans 12:1 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup>And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Philippians 2:5 "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, <sup>7</sup>but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup>And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross."

## Introduction:

We have the mind of Christ. What a powerful statement. Too many Christians do not know what this phrase means. To have the mind of Christ must indicate that we don't think and operate quite the way we did in former times. In order to have the mind of Christ, we are going to have to present ourselves to God for a transforming of our very carnal minds. But the fact that the Bible tells us that we have the mind of Christ is indicative of the fact that the work of transformation is possible and we can think differently than we used to. Hallelujah. When we have the mind of Christ we will begin to see things the way they really are in the eyes of God, rather than how we imagine they are.

Did you hear about the man who went to the doctor because he had a severe obesity problem? The doctor examined him very carefully, and said, "I have some good news and some bad news." "The good news is that there is not anything wrong with your appetite. The bad news is, according to your weight, you're not as tall as you should be."...

### I. The mind of Christ is a mind of love.

Philippians 2:1-2 "Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, <sup>2</sup>fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind."

- A. Love is what motivates God to reach out to a lost generation.
- B. The mind of Christ will motivate us to respond to those around us in a spirit of love.
  - 1. How can we help non-believers to come to know Christ?
  - 2. How can we encourage one another to be all they are destined to be?
  - 3. What can we do to lighten the burden of another?

### II. The mind of Christ is a mind desiring to establish fellowship.

Philippians 2:3-4 "Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others."

- A. The desire of Christ is that we become a family that cares about one another.

John 17:20-23 "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; <sup>21</sup>that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. <sup>22</sup>And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: <sup>23</sup>I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me."
- B. Family sticks together through thick and thin.
- C. True fellowship means that we desire the best for our brothers and sisters. (Ever notice how brothers & sisters will brag on one another.)
- D. True fellowship sometimes demands sacrifice for one another.

"As preparations were being made for a battle in the Revolutionary War, a corporal arrogantly ordered his men to lift a heavy beam. A man in civilian clothes was walking by said, "Why don't you help them?" "Sir," he replied indignantly, "I am a corporal!" The man in civilian clothes apologized for his misperception, stripped of his coat and helped the soldiers himself. When the job was finished, he said, "Corporal, the next time your men need help, call on your commander-in-chief. I'll be glad to help." With that, George Washington put on his coat and left".

### III. The mind of Christ is a mind of humility.

Philippians 2:8 *"And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross."*

A. Humility or humbleness is a quality of being courteously respectful of others. It is the opposite of aggressiveness, arrogance, boastfulness, and vanity. Rather than, "Me first," humility allows us to say, "No, you first, my friend." Humility is the quality that lets us go more than halfway to meet the needs and demands of others.

1. Humility dissipates anger and heals old wounds.
2. Humility allows us to see the dignity and worth of all God's people.
3. Humility distinguishes the wise leader from the arrogant power-seeker.

B. God rewards the humble.

Proverbs 22:4 *"By humility and the fear of the LORD Are riches and honor and life."*

C. Humility means never "growing up".

Matthew 18:2-4 *"Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them, and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."*

D. The humble will look for ways to bless others.

### IV. The mind of Christ is the mind of a servant.

Philippians 2:5-7 *"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men."*

A. The real servant of God will light up his/her world.

Matthew 5:16 *"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."*

B. The real servant of God will be an example others are willing to follow.

Titus 2:6-8 *"Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded, in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you."*

ILL: Jackie Robinson was the first black person to play major league baseball. Breaking baseball's color barrier, he faced jeering crowds in every stadium. Players would stomp his feet and kick him. While playing one day in his home stadium in Brooklyn, he made an error. The fans began to ridicule him. He stood at second base, humiliated, while the fans jeered. Then, shortstop Pee Wee Reese came over and stood next to him. He put his arm around Jackie Robinson and faced the crowd. The fans grew quiet. Robinson later said that arm around his shoulder saved his career.

C. True Holy Ghost promotion comes through servant hood.

Matthew 23:11-12 *"But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."*

**Conclusion:**

As Christians, let's begin to operate out of a spirit of love for God, love for the brethren and love for the lost. Allow love to motivate us to strengthen the fellowship through encouraging one another and the birthing of new Christians. Through working with that fellowship, let's develop true humility and keep a childlike attitude of trust and obedience. Let humility bring us to the place of serving the Lord with gladness and one another with love.