



Date: January 28, 2018

Sermon Scripture: Philippians 2:1-11

Sermon Title: From Experiencing to Exhibiting

GETTING TO KNOW ME

1. Share with your group if you experienced something in life that was so good or impactful that you intentionally chose to include/exhibit it in your own life. What was it? Why was it so good? How did you include/exhibit it in your own life?

INTO THE BIBLE

1. Read the following Scriptures and discuss what the conflict was in each case and how it was resolved. What's the application for us today?
 - Acts 6:1-7
 - Acts 15:1-35
 - Galatians 2:11-14
2. Discuss the conflicts described in the following Scriptures.
 - Acts 15:36-41 (Why couldn't Paul and Barnabas resolve their conflict? If you had been called upon to mediate this conflict, what would you have done?)¹
 - Philippians 4:2-3 (How would you go about helping Euodia and Syntyche resolve their conflict?)
3. "Unity within the Church" is a Core Value for us at Midland Free Church. Read the following definition and referenced Scriptures and then discuss it in your group, especially practical applications.
 - *"The Bible speaks of the importance of maintaining unity within each congregation (Romans 12:16; 1 Corinthians 1:10; Ephesians 4:3; Philippians 2:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 5:13; 1 Peter 3:8). The Bible instructs us to warn divisive people and call them to repent (Titus 3:10-11)."*
4. One of the functions of the Holy Spirit is to bring unity in the body of Christ. With that in mind, read and discuss the following statement and questions.
 - *"...when the Holy Spirit is working strongly in a church to manifest God's presence, one evidence will be a beautiful harmony in the church community and overflowing love for one another."* (Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology, page 647).
 - When does (or does not) the Holy Spirit work strongly in the church to manifest God's presence? Look up the Scriptures in footnote 2 for this discussion.



- Spend some time in your Life Group praying for the Holy Spirit to work strongly and manifest God's presence at Midland Free Church such that we would overflow with love for one another and enjoy a beautiful harmony.

APPLICATION

1. What is one thing you have personally experienced in this study that you would include/exhibit in your life going forward?

FOOTNOTES

¹ For an excellent summary of the relational dynamics involved in this conflict, see:
<https://www.gotquestions.org/John-Mark-in-the-Bible.html>

² Look up the following Scriptures for this discussion.

- Acts 7:51 (Resisting)
- Ephesians 4:30 (Grieving)
- 1 Thessalonians 5:19 (Quenching)
- 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (Sinning)
- Acts 5:3, 9 (Lying)
- Hebrews 10:29 (Outraging)
- Matthew 12:31-32 (Blaspheming)