

Introduction: How impossible is what Paul asks us to do in 2:3? "Do NOTHING from...

- "Rivalry" means...
- "Conceit" means...
- "Count others more significant than yourselves" means...

# Thinking Jesus's Thoughts

□ "I already have all I need" (2:6-7 with 2:1).

 $\Box$  "Things are better together than apart" (2:7-8 with 2:2).

 $\Box$  "You come first" (2:7 with 2:3).

 $\Box$  "If I do my part, then God will do His part" (2:8-11).

#### Conclusion:

- $_{\odot}$  BAD NEWS: Thinking like Jesus without His help is impossible.
- $\circ$  GREAT NEWS: He wants to give you a whole new self, IF you are willing to cry out to him in desperate faith.



#### Icebreakers:

- 1. Are you a fan of the Olympics? Why or why not?
- 2. Share a story of someone who sacrificed their life for someone else that inspires you. What do you think drove them to do it?

<u>Sermon Summary</u>: Living in a completely selfless and others-centered way is impossible unless we learn to think the way that Jesus thought. But if we come to Jesus in desperate faith, he can help us to think differently about ourselves and others, which will enable us to live the way that Jesus lived.

#### Discussion Questions: (Read Philippians 2:1-11 together.)

- 1. Did you ever experience "sibling rivalry" growing up? What kind of things did you compete with your sibling for?
- 2. Give an example of how "empty vanity" shows up in "church world."
- 3. Does the fact that Jesus was God make it hard for you to believe that he is a good model for you to follow? Why or why not?

## \* <u>Thought #1</u>: "I Already Have All I Need."

- 4. Why are we wired to believe we never have enough?
- 5. Why don't we value the gifts God HAS already given us enough to stop grasping for the things that he HASN'T given us?

## \* <u>Thought #2</u>: "Things are Better Together than Apart."

6. In what ways is it "better" to choose to live unified with other flawed Christians than staying apart from them?

## \* <u>Thought #3</u>: "You Come First."

- 7. What are some really practical scenarios where it's hard to put others first in "church world"?
- 8. Take a scenario from #7 and talk through how to respond to it with a "you come first" mindset.

## \* <u>Thought #4</u>: "If I do my part, then God will do His part."

9. How has the fear that God might not take care of you (even if you do the right thing) affected your choices lately?