

Immanuel: God With Us
Week 3: A Selfless and Obedient Servant
Phil. 2:5-8

INTRODUCTION:

- A. We are in a series about God leaving heaven and coming to live among us.
- B. This morning, let's consider another reason why the Lord gave up so much to come and live among us.
- C. God came to live among us so He could demonstrate what a life of selfless obedience looks like.

JESUS DID NOT LIVE A LIFE OF ROYALTY WHILE ON EARTH

- A. Jesus was in the form of God but He emptied himself or made himself of no reputation (Phil. 2:6-7).
- B. Jesus did not empty Himself of His deity, but of His glory and significance. He did not hold on to what He had in heaven when He came and lived among man.
- C. Consider how Jesus came into this world and lived.
 - 1. He was born as a helpless baby in a manger (Lk. 2:1-7).
 - 2. He was born to ordinary earthly parents (Lk. 1:26-29). It seems Mary and Joseph were what many in that day would consider poor (Lev. 12:8; Lk. 2:24).
 - 3. He was known as the son of a carpenter (Mk. 6:3).
 - 4. He had no earthly home to call His own (Matt. 8:20). Jesus traveled around preaching, relying on the hospitality of others.

JESUS TOOK ON THE FORM OF A SERVANT

- A. Jesus did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped (Phil. 2:6). When Jesus came into this world, He did not use His position for His own selfish advantage.
- B. Before Jesus was born into this world, He had all authority and honor (Col. 1:15-20). However, Jesus did not cling to His authority and honor, but rather He humbled himself and took on the form of a servant.
- C. Jesus spent His life in service to others (Mk. 10:45).
 - 1. Jesus was willing to serve others when He saw people in need (Matt. 4:23-24).
 - 2. Jesus was willing to serve others even in the most lowly of ways (Jn. 13:3-5; 12-15).
 - 3. Jesus was willing to serve others even in the most painful of ways (Phil. 2:8).

OUR OBEIENE TO GOD WILL BE EVIDENT THROUGH THE SELFLESS LIVES WE LIVE

- A. Do we demonstrate our obedience through how we live?
- B. "Whoever would be great among you must be your servant (Mk. 10:43).
- C. If we want to be obedient to God, we must humble ourselves and seek out opportunities to serve others.

CONCLUSION:

- A. Jesus' selfless obedience is seen in how He lived.
- B. Can the same be said about you and me?
- C. Consider a few practical things you can do this week:
 - 1. Visit someone who is lonely or hurting
 - 2. Write a card or give a call to someone who could use some encouragement
 - 3. Look for ways to be kind and serve members of your own family