

Giving Our Mind to Christ - Part 6

by Zac Poonen

The sermon emphasizes the importance of humility and eliminating selfishness and pride from our lives in order to have the mind of Christ.

Duration: 8:47

Scripture: Proverbs 11:25, Matthew 16:24, Luke 14:11, Romans 12:16, 1 Corinthians 2:16, 1 Corinthians 10:24, 2 Corinthians 10:4, Philippians 2:3, James 4:10

Topics: "Christian Humility", "Spiritual Growth"

Description

This sermon emphasizes the importance of living a life free from selfishness and pride, urging believers to adopt humility, unselfish love, and generosity towards others. It contrasts the selfless attitude of Jesus with the selfishness often found in society, highlighting the need to prioritize spiritual growth over cultural norms. The speaker encourages a sincere commitment to eliminating selfish tendencies and embracing the mindset of Christ, seeking true happiness and fulfillment in a devoted Christian life.

Transcript

Don't do anything out of selfishness or pride. Don't do anything in your life which comes out of selfishness or comes out of pride. You know you talk to a person a certain way out of pride? No.

You do something in a certain situation out of selfishness? No. Then how should we do it? In everything with humility of mind. Verse three.

With humility of mind towards other people. Always be humble and verse four always look on the other person's interest also and not only your own interest. Don't look out for your own interest but also the interests of others.

That is like Jesus. When he was in heaven he didn't think of his own interest alone. Now I'm living here comfortably and all the angels are worshiping.

It's a wonderful place, nice place to be in. I'd like to be here forever. No.

He said look at all those people who are suffering there who are going to hell. Let me go down and think of their interests. That is spirituality.

There are people who are in good jobs who could have lived comfortably with those good jobs but they thought of people who needed to hear the gospel in some place. They say Lord do you want me to go there? I'm willing to give this up. I'm willing to go there.

I won't make so much money. I won't live so comfortably and I'll do whatever you want me to do. That's the thing that motivated many people who gave up their jobs to serve the Lord and have done a tremendous job.

Forget the hypocrites, forget the counterfeit pastors but there are many others missionaries and others through the years. I want to ask you have you ever thought of that yourself? Lord you've given me so much. I mean even if you don't give up your job, forget giving up your job.

That's a much higher level but think of other people and say Lord they don't have what I have. They haven't heard what I've heard. Instead of spending 10 rupees on an ice cream I could perhaps buy a book for 10 rupees and give it to them.

Deny myself a little bit. Do we think of that? That is to be free from selfishness. The way we speak to other.

Do you ever make another person feel small? Jesus never did it. It's humility of mind it says here. With humility in our mind.

Where is humility? Humility is not stooping our shoulders and walking with crumpled clothes. It's rubbish. It's in the mind.

Where is unselfish love for others? In the mind. Where does hospitality and generosity come from? In the mind. You know I have seen in India the people in the villages.

I mean your experience is too if you've been down to the remote villages. The people in the villages are extremely generous and unselfish people. The more people live in the cities they become very selfish.

Very cultured but very selfish. Tight-fisted. The people in the villages give more for God's work than the people in the cities.

People in the cities are tight-fisted. They get money they keep it to themselves. It never becomes spiritual.

And I've seen in India in our churches that some of the most spiritual anointed people are coming up in the villages. Why not in the cities? Because of selfishness. You know people in the villages they've got some crude habits.

They will belch. You don't belch right? Because you know the culture. They'll pick their nose.

You don't do that. But they are 10 times more unselfish than you. They won't lose any marks in heaven for picking their nose or belching.

You lose a lot of marks for your tight-fistedness, miserliness and selfishness. And those people in the villages I've seen are so grateful whenever somebody does something for them. I mean even in our churches they're so grateful for medical help and spiritual help.

Extremely thankful. People in the cities have got a sort of arrogance and of course they expect that. They know how to nod their head to say thank you and sir and sorry and all that.

But pride and selfishness. My dear brothers and sisters don't confuse culture and civilization with Christianity. You can be very cultured and very polished and go to hell or be utterly unspiritual.

If you're serious about your Christian life and I want to conclude with this speaking to those who are really serious about their Christian life at least from now on. Say Lord I don't want to be a cultured civilized person primarily. I want to be a devoted Christian.

I want to eliminate selfishness and pride from my way of thinking completely. Will you pray that prayer with me? Lord I want to get rid of every little soldier there that has grown up for years from childhood which thinks of me first, my family first. Which makes me a miser, which makes me not generous towards God, which doesn't make me rich towards God.

Makes me rich towards myself and makes me haughty and think that I'm somebody. My dear brothers and sisters you don't change. You're going to get a big surprise when Christ comes.

You may be left behind or even if you get to heaven you'll have regrets for eternity. I don't want. I've seen the root of cause root of what I got from Adam.

Adam infected me with the disease called selfishness and pride. Christ has come to remove them so that I can have the mind of Christ. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 2 the last verse we have the mind of Christ.

I want to have that. I want to be able to say like Paul said in 1 Corinthians 2 in verse 16. We have the mind of Christ.

Do you want that? You'll be the happiest person on the face of the earth. You may not have so much money. You may not have so many friends.

But you'll be the happiest person on the face of the earth and you really accomplish something with your life. Let's just bow our heads for a moment before God. God has spoken to your heart.

I want to encourage you my brothers and sisters make some transactions with God today and say Lord I want to take my Christian life seriously. I want to take the battle for my mind seriously. I want to destroy these fortresses that have been built up from childhood.

I want to have the attitude that Jesus had. Lord deliver me from religiosity. Deliver me from religious activities, religious words and culture and civilization.

That's not what I seek. I want to be like Christ, like Jesus. Help me Lord.

I don't want to let the world squeeze me into its mold. I confess it's happened but it's not going to happen anymore. I'm going to be different.

I'm going to be different from the brothers and sisters around me. I'm not going to behave or dress like the other young brothers and sisters around me. I don't judge them but I don't want to be like them either.

I want to be like Jesus. Lord take me at my word. I'm going to change from today.

Help me. Dear brothers, sisters and I believe there are some who really prayed that prayer today and I want to say to you in Jesus name the Lord has heard your prayer. He'll help you.

Heavenly Father set your seal on those who cried out from their heart with earnestness, who are sick and tired of the way they've been living, who got light on themselves today and judge themselves. Help them we pray in Jesus name. Amen.

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