

The Mind of Christ

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:5

By Red Miller

As I pray and meditate about support for new our new Pastor Jennifer Jue, I wonder how we can best support her. There are many things that have already been said and written about pastoral support and we all have our individual and special talents to use in the Church. How we use our God given talents is probably as important as the talents. Paul tells us in Phil. 2:5 that we should take on the “Mind of Christ.” In doing so we would certainly be better prepared to serve.

To take on the mind of Christ seems like an impossible task, however, as Christians shouldn’t our goal be to become more like Him? Jesus was humble, willing to give up his rights in order to obey God and serve people. Like Christ, we should have a servant’s attitude, serving out of love for God and for others.

We can choose our attitude. We can approach life expecting to be served, or we can look for opportunities to serve others.

We read in *Mark 10:45* “For the Son of man himself came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” James and John wanted the highest positions in Jesus’ Kingdom. But Jesus told them that true greatness comes in serving others. Businesses, organizations, and institutions measure greatness by personal achievement. In Christ’s Kingdom, however, service is the way to get ahead.

The desire to be on top will hinder, not help. Rather than seeking to have our needs met, we should look for ways that we can minister to the needs of others.

It has been said that married couples who live long lives together eventually begin to sound alike, to talk alike, and even to think alike. The same thing is true with Christ, as we walk with Christ we take on His thoughts, His principles, His attitudes. We even take on His heart. The more time we spend with Christ the more we will become like Him.

One of our great hymns is found on page # 420 of our UM Hymnal. I think it speaks well of taking on the “Mind of Christ.”

Breath on me breath of God. Fill me with life anew, that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

- 1) Until my heart is pure, until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.
- 2) Till I am wholly thine, till all this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.
- 3) So shall I never die, but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

“In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy!” Philip. 1:4