



Title     **Look Up & Lift Up**  
By         Ricky Amano  
Date      October 7, 2018  
Text      Philippians 2:1-11

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## Sermon Notes

**Philippians 2** <sup>1</sup>Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; <sup>4</sup>do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup>but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup>Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

NASB

### Big Idea:

#### Philippians 2:5-7

5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. NASB

## For Reflection & Application:

### Monday:

- What is your grace story? If you are a believer in Jesus, think back to when and how God entered into your life story. Perhaps it was when someone shared with you about Jesus' offer of eternal life and you first believed in Jesus? Or maybe in some other way? If you are not yet a believer, ask someone at church to share their grace story with you, and perhaps you may begin your own story of grace in your life.

*Prayer: "Lord, as I reflect on all of the grace that you have shown me in my life, I am humbled by your love and care for me. Thank you for caring about me so much, your love and grace for me so amazing."*

### Tuesday:

- According to Philippians 2:1, what are 4 things that we can receive thru Christ as believers? Did you experience any of these things in your Grace Story?

*Prayer: "Heavenly Father, thank you for the encouragement, love, fellowship, tenderness, and compassion you have brought into my life, I truly feel loved and cared for."*

### Wednesday:

- Read Philippians 2:1-2. What did Paul tell the Philippian believers that they could do to make his joy complete? Take time to consider what each of the 4 items looks like in our church environment.

*Prayer: "Lord, as we replant our church next year, bring us together in unity of mind, heart and spirit, so that we may grow into the vision that you have for our church."*

### Thursday:

- According to Philippians 2:5-11, how do we ensure that we have the right attitude and perspective in our ministry as a church?

*Prayer: "Dear Father, sometimes I can be so full of pride and hold so firmly to my own thoughts, opinions, even agendas. Please help me to follow Jesus' example of humility and be open to You in obedience. I just want to learn to see others and love others with Your perspective and Your heart of grace."*

### Friday:

- Read Romans 5:1-11. When we remember our own grace story, we remember how, while we were helpless, even enemies of God, Jesus humbled himself to take human form and die on the cross for our sins. By His grace He gave us eternal life when we believed in Him, and also gave us His Spirit through which He pours His love into our hearts. Consider how we can each pour His love and His grace into each other's hearts and into the hearts of the community around us. As we remember our grace story, let's not close the book there. Let us keep our "book" open, keeping open to God's leading, as He has much more to write into our story of Grace. It includes being a part of the grace story of others.

*Prayer: "Heavenly Father, help us to become the church that follows your vision and not each of our own individual plans. As we unite among different personalities and differences of opinion, help us to remember our grace story and reflect upon your humility, grace, love and sacrifice for us while we were so helpless. Then help us to put aside our pride, so that we may follow your example of selflessness as we unite together to love each other and the community around us. Help us not to form a club focused internally, but a ministry focused on loving others as you do."*