



“Given” Philippians 2:14-18

Introduction

We have seen throughout this sermon series that as the life of the Beloved we are chosen, blessed, and broken so that we may be given. To be given is a life-long process. The more we give of ourselves, the more Christ is able to fill us up. The more we put our sinful desires to death, the more alive we become in Jesus. The more alive we are in Christ, the more we shine so the world may notice and know that a life lived in Jesus Christ is the only way we are ever truly exalted.

Discussion

- Before today, what would you have considered it meant to be “given” for the world?
- Why is it difficult for us to always set ourselves aside 100% of the time, even when it’s for the cause of Christ?

Going Deeper¹

- Read Philippians 2:6-18. What stands out to you in this passage? What makes you think? What makes you question? What do you feel?
 - Do you agree with Nouwen when he says, “our greatest fulfillment lies in giving ourselves to others”? If so, why? If not, where does our greatest fulfillment lie?
 - In what ways do you, as Clay said, “embody the Messiah’s life and His very being to the world”? In what ways could you do that?
 - What difference does it make when we do something for someone else with grumbling, or hesitation, or unhappiness versus doing something for them joyfully? Why does this difference exist?
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Application

- How can we apply the V pattern that Clay talked about to our lives? What difference will it make in our lives if we live knowing that down is the way up?
- How have you become more like Jesus this week? Are there any ways in which you have become less like Jesus?
- How can we be in prayer for you?