



New International Version is used for questions

1. Read Philippians 2:1-11. In verse one, it says that as believers we have four things, what are they? How have you experienced these four things as a Christian?
2. What in verse two does it say are the three things we should do because of what verse one said? What do you think each one means practically?
3. Verses 3-5 tell us what we have to be in order to be unified as Christians what are they? Do you think it is easy or hard for us to do these three things? Why?
4. Verses 6-11 tell us the way in which Christ modeled how we are to be as Christians, what did he do? Read Matthew 23:11,12. What human way of thinking does God stand on its head? What are some ways you can put the needs of others before your own and be a servant? What did God do for Christ as a result of his willingness to put our needs before his own? Do you think God will do this for you if you follow the example Christ gave us? What does Satan tell us will happen if we do this?
5. Pastor Rick said that Jesus did not cling to his rights as God but chose obedience, trust, and surrender instead. What were his “rights” as God when he came to earth? What “rights” should we yield to God? What do you think will happen who does not do this?
6. Our world tells us to be tolerant of everyone and if we are not, then we are not loving. What do you think they mean when they say this? Pastor Rick said that tolerance as defined by our world is the satanic counterfeit of repentance. What do you think he meant? How should we view the lifestyle of unbelievers in contrast to the lifestyle of believers?

2. *The three things we should do are a. be like-minded; b. have the same love, and c. be one in spirit and purpose. Being like minded is to think how Jesus thinks about everything, having the same love is to love everyone the way Jesus would love them, and being one in spirit and purpose is to have the same goals in life that Jesus would want us to have, to accomplish God's purposes for us together.*
3. *It says that we should have the same mind set as Jesus had which was to put your own desires and needs behind meeting the needs of those around you, to be humble and not put yourself before others. This is extremely hard because it requires the power of God's spirit within us to deny the selfish desires of our sinful nature; to put ourselves and our own needs as being less important than meeting the needs of others.*
4. *It says that even though Christ was God himself, he humbled himself and put our need of salvation above how he rightly deserved to be treated as God, even to the point of giving up his own physical life. The human thinking that is stood on its head by Christ's example is to put yourself and your desires as being less important than helping other people. As a result of his obedience, it says God placed him above everything else in creation and that everyone will one day bow to Christ in worship. Satan tells us that if we do not put our self first, then no one else will look after our good.*
5. *As God in the flesh, Jesus deserved to have everyone worship him and cater to his every need as they would a king. We are to yield the right to control our lives to God to be controlled by Him and scripture says he will exalt us. 1 Peter 5:6*
6. *The people of our world interpret the word "tolerance" as meaning that you must put your stamp of approval on the behavior of a person. As an example you cannot just say that a person has the right to engage in homosexual sex, which scripture condemns, but you must actually acknowledge that behavior as being a good thing. If you call any behavior sin, then you are intolerant. Pastor Rick meant that it is Satan who is at the root of this view of tolerance. God says we should love the people without approving of sinful choices. If a person is an unbeliever, I am not to condemn them for their sinful choices because that is what sinners do, they sin. I am to share the gospel with them so they can trust Christ as savior. Obviously once a person becomes a believer we need to teach them what the Bible says is acceptable behavior for a person who is a child of God and help them to grow beyond their sinful actions, as we all should.*