

“How to Build a Gospel-Shaped Community.”

August 3, 2025

Text: (Phil 2:1-10)

Sermon Series: “Summer in the Scriptures.”

Pastor Dave Hentschel

Intro: Who is protecting your blind side?

I. The Blessings of Community (*Philippians 2:1–2*)

- Be **like-minded**
- Have the **same love**
- Be one in **spirit and purpose**

Everyone needs a **Paul** (mentor), a **Timothy** (mentee), and a **Barnabas** (encourager).

II. The Breakdown of Community (*Philippians 2:3–4*)

Paul exposes the two cancerous attitudes that destroy community:

- **Selfish ambition** – advancing yourself at the expense of others
- **Vain conceit** – empty glory, the desire to be seen and applauded

Instead, he calls for:

- **Humility** – valuing others above yourself
- **Consideration** – looking out not only for your interests but also for the interests of others

III. The Blueprint for Community (*Philippians 2:5–11*)

Jesus, being God, did not cling to status

- He emptied Himself, became human, and took the posture of a servant
- He humbled Himself to the point of death—even death on a cross

This is **kenotic humility**—a voluntary descent for the good of others.

We kill self-centeredness not by trying harder, but by gazing longer at the cross.

Step One: Community thrives where self-centeredness dies.

Step Two: Self-centeredness dies when we look at the cross.