



International Bible Lesson
Uniform Sunday School Lessons Series
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Living with the King of kings Today
January 27, 2019
Philippians 2:1-11

“So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind” (Philippians 2:1,2).

Jesus testified before Pilate that His kingdom was not from this world, that He had come into the world to testify to the truth, and everyone who belonged to the truth listened to his voice (John 18:36-37). Living in Jesus' kingdom is far different from life in this world's kingdoms and nations. First, Jesus' followers live in a close and personal relationship with the King of the universe, the One the Bible calls “the King of kings and Lord of lords” (Revelation 17:14). By comparison, only a few receive personal help from their political leaders. Second, Jesus personally encourages His followers when they struggle day-by-day in a kingdom or nation that Satan claims to control (see his temptation of Jesus in Matthew 4:8-11). Third, Jesus Christ loves each of His subjects and lives so close to and with each one that they know He loves them; therefore, they receive the exact comfort they need when they talk to Jesus in prayer. Fourth, Jesus' subjects can enjoy fellowship and participation with Christ moment-by-moment night and day through the Spirit that He sent to indwell them.

His subjects know that no matter what their trials or temptations they can turn to their great King and personally receive His affection, sympathy and help wherever they are in this world. Jesus' followers develop like minds through Bible study and working together in obedience to Christ. As believers draw closer to Christ, they draw closer to each other in love for one another.

Thinking Further

1. Which of these needs seem most important to you: “encouragement in Christ, consolation from love, sharing in the Spirit, compassion and sympathy”? Why?”
2. How might a leader mislead people using these words: “be of the same mind and have the same love and be in full accord”?
3. What happens when selfish ambition is expressed in the church, especially among leaders?
4. What do believers need to do to have the mind that was in Christ Jesus?
5. How can you apply what Paul wrote to the Philippians to the situation of obedience today as you see it?

Begin or close your class by reading the short weekly *International Bible Lesson*.
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