



# Sermon Notes

**Topic:** The Downward Path to Greatness

**Preacher:** Ps Paul Curtis

**Bible Passage:** Philippians 2:1-11

**Date:** Sunday 24th August 2025

## Study Guide Overview

- We are all tempted to become a “somebody” (v3)
- Yet, the ultimate somebody, willingly became a “nobody” (v5-6)
- In fact, He become a servant of all (v7)
- Taking on Himself the sin of all mankind (v8)
- Motivating us to take up His call on our life to follow His example (v1-2)

## Small Group Questions/Discussions

In what ways do we try to raise our status of importance? What drives this within each of us?  
Have you ever met someone who is a genuine “somebody” someone famous – How did you respond?

Do you think our minds have the capacity to understand the greatness of God – the Trinity? What would be our response if we could?” Read Isaiah 6:1-5 and Colossians 1:15-20. What is the world’s response to someone who goes down in status? Does anyone do it willingly? Paul said that Jesus did not use his status (being the very nature of God) to his own advantage – what do you think that means?

Jesus gave up all the privileges of being God - He became human. What encouragement do we receive from this amazing truth? We read that He became a servant. He didn’t just leave Heaven, it wasn’t just a change of location, but a totally new calling. How does this challenge the world’s philosophy of thinking? What is our response to becoming a servant?

The humility of Jesus meant that He went to the cross willingly for the sin of the world. What does it mean for you that He took on your sin? What was the greater agony that Jesus suffered by doing so? Someone wrote “*God didn’t make Jesus a sinner, he just regarded Him as one, as a result, God hasn’t made us perfect, He just regards us as those who are*” Look at both aspects, how amazing! Why should we never doubt that the righteousness of Jesus has been accredited to us?

Paul says if we have been encouraged in any way by knowing Jesus, then we must follow His example. What is your response? What is your prayer?