**Discussion Guide for Community Groups**

**Living for Christ in a Secular World – Mind of Christ**

**Icebreakers:**

1. An act of sin begins with a thought. So, how do you go about harnessing your thought processes?
2. How true is the saying, “Garbage in, garbage out?” (What is your criteria for screening information that enters your mind?)
3. Thought processes lead to habits. It is thought that it takes about 90 days to change an established thought process. Are there some thought processes that you want to change? (These can be pro-active changes as well as breaking negative cycles)

**Read the following passage:** **Philippians 2:1-5 (NKJV)** 1  Therefore if *there is* any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, 2  fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind. 3  *Let* nothing *be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. 4  Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. 5  Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus…

**Background:** *Paul is writing to the Church at Philippi, and he cuts to the core of what it means to be a follower of Christ. The goal of following Christ is to become like Christ. Behavior follows mind-set; Therefore, Paul is calling on followers of Christ to adopt the mind of Christ.*

**Philippians 2:1,2 (NKJV) 1  Therefore if *there is* any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, 2  fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.**

1. What do you think Paul is referring to when he asks, “If there is any consolation in Christ?”
2. There is a chorus that talks about our relationship with/in Christ: “All of you is more than enough.” Is it true, is your relationship with Christ providing for all that you need?
3. What is the value when a group of Believers are like-minded and in one accord? (Community standards of behavior can only be maintained if there is a like-minded agreement as to those standards. What is the value found in establishing and living by community standards?)

**Philippians 2:3,4 (NKJV) 3  *Let* nothing *be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. 4  Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.**

1. In verses 3 and 4 Paul talks about the humility found in Christ. He then calls us to walk in that humility:
   1. Let NOTHING be done through selfish ambition, but esteem others as better than yourself.
   2. Put the interests of others before your own.
2. How do we put these two aspects of humility into action in our own lives?
3. True humility is not about self-hatred—it is about raising our level of love, concern, and acceptance of others. Can we love others effectively if we don’t love ourselves?

**Wrap-up: Philippians 2:5 (NKJV) 5  Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus…**

* *In a word, how would you describe the mind of Christ?*
* *What impresses you the most about the mind of Christ?*
* *How can “we” effectively imitate Him?*