

December 4th, Better Than Equal
Part 12 in the series 'Human'

What were some things from last Sunday's message that resonated with you?

Was there anything you wrestled with?

Do you think life ought to be fair? Why or why not?

Did you find it surprising to hear that the Bible does not say all people are created equal?

Do you think God intends for the Bible to promote inequality?

How would you define human rights?

What are some areas where equality is not appropriate?

Why doesn't God apportion things equally?

What are the unequally distributed things the apostle Paul boasted about? Why did he boast about those?

Read Philippians 2:5-11

“In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:
Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider **equality** with God something to be used to his own advantage;
rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!
Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.”

How do Jesus' attitude and actions conflict with the culture of his day, and with our own ideas about the secret of life?

Jim read one of the two places in the New Testament where equality is mentioned. Here is the other:

2 Corinthians 8:13-15

“**13** Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be **equality**. **14** At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is **equality**, **15** as it is written: ‘The one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little.’”

Does that passage about equality conflict with Jim’s message?

Jim said the Bible teaches us something even better than equality. What is that thing, the secret of life?