

WEAVER STUDY GUIDES

The Mind of Christ

Study Guide

Old Testament Studies

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A lesson-by-lesson companion for reading, discussion, and written responses.

Downloadable classroom edition | 8.5 x 11 inches

Name / group

Date

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Using this guide

Read the corresponding chapter, then work through the themes, arguments, and Scripture references.

Write your responses before discussing the questions with others. Use the application pages to identify a practical next step.

The study material is retained from the existing lecture study guides. Added writing prompts provide space for your own response.

Print at Actual Size / 100% on US Letter paper. Single-sided and double-sided printing are both suitable. Lessons begin on the next available page; no blank pages are inserted.

Reading assignments refer to the September 30, 2026 edition of the companion book. Online lecture links and QR codes are collected at the end.

LESSON 1

The Mind of Christ

Part One of Two

April 29, 2013

Read Chapter 1 in the companion book, pages 5-20.

Major Themes

The Mind of Christ as a Command

Possessing the mind of Christ is not optional; it is a present passive imperative requiring continual, moment-by-moment obedience.

Lecture support: Weaver states: 'Since it is an imperative, it means it is a command. Secondly, since it is a command and it is in the present tense, it means it is to be applied now and each and every moment of every day.'

The Mind of Christ Revealed in Scripture

Believers have the mind of Christ through the illumination of the Holy Spirit and especially through the written Word, which must shape all thinking.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'We have the mind of Christ revealed in His Word. Do you want to know what Christ thinks about economics? Read His Word.'

Avoiding Strife and Vainglory

Strife and vainglory are dangerous dispositions that divide the body of Christ; believers must instead cultivate lowliness of mind.

Lecture support: Weaver warns: 'Strife and vainglory separates the body of Christ as effectively as a chainsaw separates the human body.'

Esteeming Others Better Than Self

True humility comes from seeing God's majesty and our own secret sins, leading us to value others above ourselves.

Lecture support: Weaver explains: 'With your knowledge of your secret sins, it ought to lead you to esteem others better than yourself.'

Unity Through Like-Mindedness

The church must be like-minded, having the same love, one accord, and one mind, which is only possible by submitting to the mind of Christ.

Lecture support: Weaver states: 'If we think alike, we love alike... If we have the same mind, if we have the same love, if we're knit together, we will move as a body.'

One Mind Produces One Mouth, Motive, and Mission

Thinking alike leads to speaking alike, a unified motive to glorify God, and a shared mission of receiving one another and confirming God's promises.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'If you think alike, if you have one mind, you're going to have one mouth... One mind and one mouth will lead you to one motive.'

Key Arguments

The command to have the mind of Christ is a continual obligation

The Greek present passive imperative in Philippians 2:5 demands ongoing, moment-by-moment obedience, not a one-time decision.

Lecture support: Weaver explains: 'Since it is an imperative, it means it is a command... it is to be applied now and each and every moment of every day.'

The mind of Christ is accessible through Scripture

While the Spirit illuminates, the primary way we know Christ's mind is by reading and conforming to His Word.

Lecture support: Weaver states: 'We have the mind of Christ revealed in His Word.'

Strife and vainglory destroy unity

These sins are condemned throughout Proverbs and the New Testament; they must be replaced with lowliness of mind.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Proverbs 15:18, 16:28, 17:1, 17:14, 17:19, 20:3, 22:10 to show God's condemnation of strife.

True humility comes from self-awareness and God-awareness

Seeing God's holiness and our own secret sins leads to esteeming others better than ourselves.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'If you ever really see the holiness and the righteousness and the majesty of God, you cannot but help have a small view of yourself.'

Unity requires mutual submission to the mind of Christ

The example of Euodias and Syntyche shows that both parties must submit their minds to Christ for strife to cease.

Lecture support: Weaver explains: 'Euodias and Syntyche, you must be of the same mind in the Lord... you both submit your minds to the Word of God.'

One mind leads to unified speech, motive, and mission

Romans 15:5-8 demonstrates that like-mindedness results in one mouth, one motive (glorifying God), and one mission (receiving one another and confirming promises).

Lecture support: Weaver states: 'If you think alike, if you have one mind, you're going to have one mouth... One mind and one mouth will lead you to one motive.'

Scripture References

Philippians 2:1-8

The main passage read and expounded; the command to have the mind of Christ is in verse 5.

1 Corinthians 2:16

Paul asks who has known the mind of the Lord and then declares 'we have the mind of Christ.'

Isaiah 40:13

Alluded to by Paul in 1 Corinthians 2:16; asks who has directed the Spirit of the Lord.

Romans 11:34

Paul again asks who has known the mind of the Lord or been His counselor.

Philippians 1:28-30

The Philippians were suffering and in conflict, which is why Paul directs them to consolation in Christ.

2 Corinthians 11:24-29

Paul's sufferings listed to show how he endured through having the mind of Christ.

Romans 12:1-2

Believers are to present their bodies as living sacrifices and be transformed by the renewing of their minds.

Proverbs 15:18

A wrathful man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger appeases it.

Proverbs 16:28

A froward man sows strife, and a whisperer separates chief friends.

Proverbs 17:1

Better a dry morsel with quietness than a house full of sacrifices with strife.

Proverbs 17:14

The beginning of strife is like letting out water; leave off contention before it starts.

Proverbs 17:19

He who loves transgression loves strife.

Proverbs 20:3

It is an honor to cease from strife, but every fool will be meddling.

Proverbs 22:10

Cast out the scorner and contention, strife, and reproach will cease.

3 John 9-10

Diotrephes loves preeminence, illustrating vainglory and its destructive effects.

Isaiah 6:5

Isaiah's vision of God's glory led him to see his own sinfulness, a model for humility.

Romans 12:3

Paul commands not to think more highly of oneself than one ought, but to think soberly.

Philippians 4:1-2

Euodias and Syntyche are urged to be of the same mind in the Lord.

Romans 12:16

Be of the same mind one toward another; do not be wise in your own conceits.

1 Corinthians 1:10

Paul beseeches the Corinthians to speak the same thing, have no divisions, and be perfectly joined in the same mind.

Study notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean that the command to have the mind of Christ is a 'present passive imperative,' and how should that affect our daily lives?

Consider: Weaver explains the Greek construction in Philippians 2:5.

2. How can we practically 'conform our thinking' to the mind of Christ as revealed in Scripture on specific issues like economics or family?

Consider: Weaver challenges believers to find Christ's mind in the Word on various topics.

3. Why are strife and vainglory so dangerous to the church, and what steps can we take to avoid them?

Consider: Weaver discusses the destructive nature of these sins and cites Proverbs.

4. How does an awareness of our own secret sins help us to esteem others better than ourselves?

Consider: Weaver argues that knowing our own failures should lead to humility.

5. What does it look like for a church to be 'of one accord' and 'knit together' as one soul?

Consider: Weaver explains the terms in Philippians 2:2.

6. How can the example of Euodias and Syntyche help us resolve conflicts in the church today?

Consider: Weaver uses their story to illustrate the need for mutual submission to Christ's mind.

7. In what ways does having one mind lead to one mouth, one motive, and one mission in the church?

Consider: Weaver traces the progression from Romans 15:5-8.

8. What would it mean for you personally to 'do always those things that please the Father'?

Consider: Weaver closes with the example of Christ in John 8:29.

Applications

Submit your mind to Scripture daily

Believers must actively conform their thinking to the Word of God in every area of life, not relying on feelings or worldly wisdom.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'Do you want to know what Christ thinks about economics? Read His Word. See what He thinks. And then conform your thinking to what He says.'

Put a plug in strife

When conflict begins to escalate, believers should stop talking, walk away, and refuse to engage, following the wisdom of Proverbs 17:14.

Lecture support: Weaver illustrates: 'When you see things are starting to get out of hand, God says, just put a plug in it. Just be quiet. Just shut up. Just walk away.'

Esteem others by remembering your own sins

Cultivate humility by regularly confessing secret sins and viewing others as more excellent than yourself.

Lecture support: Weaver states: 'With your knowledge of your secret sins, it ought to lead you to esteem others better than yourself.'

Look out for the interests of others

Instead of selfishly focusing on personal advantage, actively consider how to benefit and help fellow believers.

Lecture support: Weaver explains: 'We're to look out for our brethren as well. We're to consider their welfare and how we may benefit them and help them.'

Pursue like-mindedness in the church

Work toward unity by submitting personal opinions to the mind of Christ, so that the church may think, love, and move together.

Lecture support: Weaver says: 'If we have the same mind, if we have the same love, if we're knit together, we will move as a body.'

Glorify God with one mind and mouth

Let unity of thought produce unity of speech and a shared motive to glorify God in all things.

Lecture support: Weaver states: 'One mind and one mouth will lead you to one motive. And that motive is to glorify God.'

Pray for the mind of Christ

Make it a matter of prayer that God would give you the mind of Christ in every situation, asking how Christ would think, act, and speak.

Lecture support: Weaver urges: 'Would you consider making it a matter of prayer that God would give you the mind of Christ in every area of your life.'

Study notes

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

LESSON 2

The Mind of Christ

Part Two of Two

May 05, 2013

Read Chapter 2 in the companion book, pages 21-36.

Major Themes

The Mind of Christ Defined as Humility and Obedience

The mind of Christ consists of two essential graces: humility and obedience. Christ voluntarily humbled Himself by veiling His glory and becoming a servant, and He obeyed the Father even to death on the cross.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'The mind of Christ consists of two essential graces, humility and obedience.' He then expounds Philippians 2:6-8 to show Christ's humility and obedience.

Christ as the Supreme Example for Believers

Jesus Christ is the highest example of the mind of Christ. Believers are commanded to have the same mind and to follow His steps, as He is the perfect model of humility and obedience.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Christ was the highest example which could be furnished... we're to make the Lord Jesus Christ our model and our example.' He cites 1 Peter 2:21.

The Kenosis: Christ's Self-Emptying Without Loss of Deity

Christ 'made himself of no reputation' not by divesting Himself of divine attributes, but by veiling His glory in human flesh. This preserves the orthodox doctrine of Christ's two natures.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'The way He emptied Himself or became of no reputation was He allowed the human flesh to veil His glory.' He quotes John Calvin and references Hebrews 10:19-20.

The Necessity of One Mind, One Mouth, One Motive, and One Mission

Possessing the mind of Christ results in unity among believers: thinking alike (one mind), speaking alike (one mouth), glorifying God (one motive), and receiving one another (one mission).

Lecture support: Weaver reviews Romans 15:5-8, stating, 'If we possess the mind of Christ, we're going to have one mind, one mouth, one motive, and basically one mission.'

The Imperative Nature of the Command to Have the Mind of Christ

Philippians 2:5 is a present passive imperative, meaning it is a command to continually conform one's thinking to Christ's mind. It is not a suggestion or advice.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'It is an imperative in the Greek, it is a present passive imperative, and an imperative is a command.'

Defense of Christ's Two Natures Against Heresies

Weaver warns against heresies that deny Christ's deity, humanity, or confuse the two natures. He cites the Athanasian Creed, Creed of Chalcedon, and Philadelphia Baptist Confession to affirm orthodox Christology.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'Whenever the deity of Christ is denied, it is heresy. Whenever the humanity of Christ is denied, it is heresy.' He then reads from the creeds.

The Believer's Duty to Walk Humbly and Obediently Despite Difficulty

Though walking in humility and obedience is difficult due to the flesh, it is our duty. Hebrews 12:4 reminds us we have not yet resisted sin to the point of bloodshed, so we have no excuse to complain.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'It may be difficult. It may be extremely difficult. But it's still our duty.' He then references Hebrews 12:4.

Love as the Fulfillment of the Law in Obedience

If we love the Lord, we will obey Him. Love fulfills the law (Romans 13:10), meaning we must resist sin and choose obedience to have the mind of Christ.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'If we love the Lord, we will obey Him. Romans 13 and verse 10 declares that love is the fulfilling of the law.'

Key Arguments

The mind of Christ is not optional but commanded

Philippians 2:5 is a present passive imperative, commanding believers to continually have the mind of Christ. It is not a suggestion or advice.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'It is an imperative in the Greek, it is a present passive imperative, and an imperative is a command.'

Christ's self-emptying did not involve loss of deity

Christ 'made himself of no reputation' by veiling His divine glory in human flesh, not by giving up His divine attributes. This preserves His full deity and humanity.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'The way He emptied Himself or became of no reputation was He allowed the human flesh to veil His glory.' He cites John Calvin and Hebrews 10:19-20.

Christ's humility was voluntary and contrasted with Adam's pride

Christ, though God, did not seize the opportunity to display His full glory, unlike the first Adam who sinfully grasped at equality with God. This demonstrates true humility.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'The first Adam, who was a man and a creature, sinfully seized at the opportunity to become God... The second Adam, who was God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God... but he willingly and in humility concealed that glory.'

The mind of Christ consists of humility and obedience

The two essential graces of the mind of Christ are humility (voluntary lowering of oneself) and obedience (doing the Father's will even unto death).

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'The mind of Christ consists of two essential graces, humility and obedience.' He then expounds Philippians 2:6-8.

Christ's obedience extended to a unique, substitutionary death

Christ's death was not merely physical; He experienced the full wrath of God as a propitiatory sacrifice for sins, unlike any human death.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'He knew that in His death, He would incur and He would experience the full wrath of God for our sins. His death was unique. It was a sacrificial death. It was a substitutionary death. It was a propitiatory death.'

Believers have no excuse to complain about the difficulty of obedience

Hebrews 12:4 states that believers have not yet resisted sin to the point of bloodshed, so they have no reason to complain about the difficulty of walking humbly and obediently.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin... until we start shedding blood, our own blood, in resisting sin, we have no reason to complain.'

Love fulfills the law and motivates obedience

If we love the Lord, we will obey Him. Romans 13:10 teaches that love is the fulfilling of the law, so we must resist sin and choose obedience.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'If we love the Lord, we will obey Him. Romans 13 and verse 10 declares that love is the fulfilling of the law.'

Possessing the mind of Christ leads to unity in the church

Having the mind of Christ results in one mind (thinking biblically), one mouth (speaking alike), one motive (glorifying God), and one mission (receiving one another).

Lecture support: Weaver reviews Romans 15:5-8, stating, 'If we possess the mind of Christ, we're going to have one mind, one mouth, one motive, and basically one mission.'

Scripture References

Philippians 2:5-8

The primary text of the sermon, commanding believers to have the mind of Christ, who humbled Himself and became obedient unto death.

Romans 8:27

Cited to show that the Holy Spirit knows the mind of God, and believers have the mind of Christ through the Spirit's indwelling.

Romans 15:5-8

Used to illustrate the application of the mind of Christ: one mind, one mouth, one motive (glorifying God), and one mission (receiving one another).

1 Corinthians 10:31

Quoted to support the one motive of glorifying God in all things.

1 Peter 2:21

Cited to show that Christ left an example for believers to follow His steps.

Luke 1:35

Used to explain that the 'holy thing' born of Mary was the human nature of Christ, assumed by the Son of God.

1 Timothy 3:16

Quoted to affirm the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh.

Hebrews 10:19-20

Used to illustrate that Christ's flesh served as a veil concealing His deity.

Matthew 17:1-2

Cited as an instance where Christ's divine glory shone through the veil of His flesh at the Transfiguration.

Galatians 4:4-5

Quoted to show that Christ was made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem those under the law.

Psalms 113:5-6

Used to emphasize the extreme humility of God in beholding heaven and earth, and by extension, the incarnation.

Isaiah 55:8-9

Quoted to contrast God's thoughts and ways with man's striving for greatness.

Matthew 18:3-4

Referenced to show that greatness in the kingdom requires childlike humility.

Matthew 11:29

Quoted to show Christ's meekness and lowliness of heart.

Colossians 3:12-13

Cited to command believers to put on humbleness of mind, meekness, and longsuffering.

Isaiah 6:5

Referenced to illustrate that a true vision of God produces natural humility.

John 13

Alluded to as an example of Christ's humility in washing the disciples' feet.

Luke 22:24-27

Quoted to show Christ's teaching that the greatest must be a servant, and His own example as one who serves.

John 8:29

Quoted to show Christ's perfect obedience: 'I do always those things that please him.'

Colossians 1:9-10

Cited to show Paul's prayer that believers walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. How does understanding Philippians 2:5 as a command (imperative) change the way you approach having the mind of Christ?

Consider: Weaver emphasizes that 'Let this mind be in you' is a present passive imperative, not a suggestion.

2. In what ways do you struggle with the humility that Christ demonstrated, and how can Psalm 113:5-6 deepen your appreciation for His condescension?

Consider: Weaver uses Psalm 113 to show that even beholding creation requires divine humility, making the incarnation even more astounding.

3. Why is it essential to affirm that Christ did not empty Himself of His deity, and how does the 'veil of flesh' analogy help you understand the incarnation?

Consider: Weaver warns against heresies that deny Christ's deity and explains the kenosis as veiling, not losing, divine attributes.

4. How does the contrast between the first Adam and the second Adam (Christ) illustrate the mind of Christ for you personally?

Consider: Weaver contrasts Adam's sinful grasp at equality with God and Christ's voluntary humility.

5. What does it mean to 'walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing' (Colossians 1:10), and how can you make this a matter of prayer?

Consider: Weaver challenges believers to pray for the ability to please God in all things, as Christ did.

6. How does the truth that Christ's death was a propitiatory sacrifice, enduring God's full wrath, affect your gratitude and motivation for obedience?

Consider: Weaver explains the unique, substitutionary nature of Christ's death.

7. In what areas of your life are you tempted to complain about the difficulty of obedience, and how does Hebrews 12:4 challenge that attitude?

Consider: Weaver uses Hebrews 12:4 to argue that believers have no reason to complain since they haven't resisted sin to the point of bloodshed.

8. How can the church practically cultivate 'one mind, one mouth, one motive, and one mission' as described in Romans 15:5-8?

Consider: Weaver reviews the application of the mind of Christ to church unity.

Applications

Cultivate humility by considering Christ's example

Believers are to put on humbleness of mind, following Christ who voluntarily veiled His glory and became a servant. This involves rejecting pride and striving for position.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Put on therefore, as the elect of God... humbleness of mind' (Colossians 3:12) and contrasts Christ's humility with human striving for greatness.

Pursue obedience even unto death

Believers are called to obey God as Christ obeyed, even when it is difficult. This includes resisting sin and doing what pleases God, motivated by love.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'If we love the Lord, we will obey Him' and references Romans 13:10. He also points to Christ's obedience unto death as the model.

Pray for the ability to please God in all things

Believers should make it a matter of prayer to walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, as Paul prayed for the Colossians.

Lecture support: Weaver asks, 'Have you ever really made it a matter of prayer to ask God to enable you to walk pleasing unto Him?' referencing Colossians 1:9-10.

Resist sin without complaint

Believers are to resist sin diligently, remembering that they have not yet shed blood in the struggle. This silences complaints about the difficulty of obedience.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Until we start shedding blood, our own blood, in resisting sin, we have no reason to complain.' He cites Hebrews 12:4.

Strive for unity in the church through like-mindedness

Having the mind of Christ leads to one mind, one mouth, one motive, and one mission. Believers should think biblically, speak alike, glorify God, and receive one another.

Lecture support: Weaver explains Romans 15:5-8, stating, 'If we possess the mind of Christ, we're going to have one mind, one mouth, one motive, and basically one mission.'

Follow Christ's steps as the perfect example

Believers are to make Christ their model in every respect, framing their lives according to His humility and obedience, as 1 Peter 2:21 commands.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'We're to make the Lord Jesus Christ our model and our example, and frame our lives in every respect according to Christ.'

Do all things for God's glory

The one motive of the mind of Christ is to glorify God in everything, whether eating, drinking, or whatever we do (1 Corinthians 10:31).

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'The one motive that we should have is that everything that we do, we're to do for God's honor and God's glory.'

Keep God's commandments to ensure answered prayer

Answered prayer is connected to keeping God's commandments and doing what pleases Him, as 1 John 3:22 teaches.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.'

Study notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

Online Lecture Resources

Scan a code or select the lecture link in the PDF. The original lecture identifiers and destinations are preserved.

Lesson 1: The Mind of Christ - Part One of Two

Lecture JW01353

[Open the formatted lecture online](https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01353&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted)



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Lesson 2: The Mind of Christ - Part Two of Two

Lecture JW01354

[Open the formatted lecture online](https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01354&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted)



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Source information

Study material: existing Major Themes, Key Arguments, Scripture References, Discussion Questions, and Applications from the corresponding Weaver Bible College lecture records. Original lecture titles and provenance are retained in those source records.

Layout upgraded September 30, 2026. Original manuscripts, study-guide data, and previous PDFs have not been changed.