# In Pursuit Of Christ

**Tony Mauck** · Philippians 2:1–16

## INTRODUCTION

- This whole context revolves around, I think, verse 5, let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.
- And so this whole text revolves around thinking like he thought.
- We are a church that belongs to Jesus Christ, or we are of Christ.

## 1 We Have to Listen to Him

**John 6:63; John 8:31–32**

- Man shall not live by bread alone. But by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. We must give attention. We must give heed.
- The flesh profits nothing, but my words. They are spirit, and they are life.
- If you abide in my word, then you are disciples of mine.
- We can't just ignore what Jesus said, not do what he said, and claim to be his disciples.
- And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

## 2 Christ Is Head Over All Things to the Church

**Ephesians 1:22–23; Matthew 12:34–37; 1 Corinthians 4:6**

- He put all things in subjection under Jesus' feet. And gave him as head over all things to the church.
- It is his body. The fullness of him that fills all in all.
- Churches have twitches. But theirs is not the result of a medical condition. It's because they want to twitch.
- And so to truly be of Christ, we have got to let him dictate.
- When we delve beyond what has been written, or act without authority or without Jesus at our head, it is arrogance to do so.

## 3 Christ Dictates Our Organization, Worship and Work

**Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:2–3; John 4:13–14**

- In every aspect of our labor together, we must allow Christ to be the head. We must allow Him to dictate our movements in these three main areas.
- That's why elders are not given any authority or oversight beyond the local church. They are to shepherd the church of God among them.
- Corruption in worship and a seeming distaste of simple devotion has led to a multitude of innovations, particularly in relation to music. But by what New Testament passage do we find authorization for such?

- The mission, the work that he gave his church, was not stamping out physical hunger in people's lives.
- He gave us the mission to stamp out spiritual hunger. And to satisfy spiritual thirst.
- Let someone else do the work that satisfies only temporarily.

## 4 What Is God's Estimate of Me

**Titus 3:5; 1 Timothy 6:3; 2 Timothy 2:22**

- The issue is what is God's estimate of me.
- First, we need to be birthed in him, born again by the living and abiding seed, the word of God.
- I come up out of the waters of baptism, I am of Christ. I'm born unto him. And that's where it begins.
- You can't truly be of Christ while minimizing the practice of sin.
- Pursue being of Christ. Pursue righteousness. That is the things that are right.
- You can't be of Christ if you're not interested in worshiping Him.

THE CHALLENGE

Let's do our best to make that sign a reality. That in my life I'm truly of Christ.

MY NOTES