

## Courageous Christianity #11

### “Christmas Emptying”

Philippians 2:5-11

“And this is the way to have eternal life ~ to know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the One You sent to earth.” ~ John 17:3

“Emptied Himself of all but love and died for Adam’s helpless race.”  
~ Charles Wesley, “And Can It Be”

Question: What is it we celebrate at Christmas? Of course, it is the fact that God has become a human being! But the physical manifestation before He became a man was ~ He EMPTIED Himself!! (Philippians 2:7)

I. Likewise, He calls us to empty ourselves. But how?

First: It takes COURAGE to empty ourselves.

☛ Jesus emptied Himself of self-INTEREST.

☛ Can you follow His example?

Second: It takes DISCIPLINE to empty ourselves.

☛ Spiritual growth doesn’t happen accidentally.

☛ Make a plan: Practice daily SOLITUDE.

• Same time ~ Same place ~ Daily.

II. He Call us to be filled too!

But how, our lives are already OVERFILLED?

First: REDUCE AND SIMPLIFY

☛ Don’t be ABSURD.

☛ Focus on ONE THING. See Psalm 27:4

Second: Make use of the new space!

God fills us with:

☛ The Holy Spirit

☛ The Fruit of Righteousness. see Phil 1:11

☛ Wonder!