

# [PHILIPPIANS]

## AN UNCOMMON JOY

### LIVING RIGHT

Last week we learned God wants to use us in everyday happenings to plant seeds to advance the Gospel.

Philippians 1:27-30 (NIV) *27 Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel 28 without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. 29 For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, 30 since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.*

Big Idea: Let our lives PREACH the message. In all circumstances, from the best of times to opposition and suffering, our response should be faithfulness and unity.

Conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel...

Philippians 3:20 (NIV) *But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ...*

- A change in LOYALTY demands a change in LIFESTYLE.

Living out our Christian citizenship in a manner worthy of the Gospel... (vs. 27-28)

- Stand firm in ONE SPIRIT for He is the source of our unity.
- Striving TOGETHER, as in a team effort, and never feeling alone.
- COURAGE under pressure.

### Believing on Him and suffering for Him... (vs. 29-30)

- Facing adversity and responding with faithful endurance is part of God's gracious activity.

Philippians 2:15 (NIV) *...so that you may become blameless and pure, "children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation." Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky...*

### A lifestyle that is "worthy of the Gospel of Christ."

How do these themes (steadfastness, unity, striving and suffering) and this passage address the 21st Century Church?

- By calling us to EMBODY the Gospel.
- By calling us to STAND together.
- Helps us to understand that SUFFERING can be used to further HIS GLORY and to conform us to the image of Christ.

#### Life Groups

Scriptures that Relate:

Monday: Colossians 1  
Tuesday: Colossians 2

Wednesday: Colossians 3  
Thursday: Colossians 4

Friday: 1 Thessalonians 1  
Saturday: 1 Thessalonians 2

Talk it Over:

1. Share any happenings you have had recently with others to advance the Gospel.
2. What message does your life preach?
3. Who do you strive together with for the sake of the Gospel?
4. Where do you need courage not panic?
5. Why is it so easy to get complacent in our Christian walk? What are you going to do about it?

#### Pastor Brian's Prayer Requests

Monday: Pray for our Crossing Kids that they would make a commitment to Christ and never stray.

Tuesday: Pray for our students especially those headed on a Youth Mission Trip today.

Wednesday: Pray for our PrimeTimers for good health and motivation to continue to make a difference for the kingdom.

Thursday: Pray for our Missions Team. There are so many needs. Give them wisdom as we minister in our community and around the world!

Friday: Pray for our small groups and classes that we will do life together and be an encouragement to one another.

Saturday: Pray for our services this weekend.