

Dig Deeper into Philippians 1:27-2:4 for individuals and lifegroups

Philippians 1:27-2:4 Gospel Citizens...

Live as citizens of heaven in unity...

- 1) Be united together 1v27-30
against opposition



Q: are there any Christians you need to stand with?

- 2) Be united together 2v1-4
against selfish pride



Q: are there any Christians you have fallen out with?

Here are some questions and resources to help dig deeper into Philippians 1:27-2:4....

1. In which verses does Paul emphasise the oneness or unity that a church should have? (feel free to circle words and phrases in the text- see over the page). Would you say that unity is complete unanimity in every matter?
2. Why is unity hard when there are external pressures (1v27-29)? Why is unity hard when there are internal pressures (2v1-4)? Do you have any experience of either of these challenges? What impact did they have on the gospel?
3. Have a look at the following verses to see motives for working at unity...
 - a. 1v28
 - b. 2v1
 - c. 2v2
 - d. John 13:34-35
 - e. John 15:12-17
 - f. John 17:20-21
4. Look at the following verses to understand how to maintain the unity that is ours through our union with Christ (see also Eph 4:3,15)...
 - a. 2v3-4
 - b. 2v5
 - c. 2v14
5. Have a look at the two questions on the powerpoint above marked “Q” . What advice would you give to a Christian struggling to stand up to pressure, or struggling to relate well to another brother or sister?

Spend some time praying about this, and look forward to help from 2:5-18 next week.

Some resources...

- Here is the **Bible Project's** introduction and helpful diagrammatic representation of Philippians, also showing how central Phil 2:6-11 is in the book:
<https://bibleproject.com/guides/book-of-philippians/>
- Listen to the “**Two sisters and a cup of tea**” podcast; series 11 is on Philippians:
<https://www.twosistersandacupoftea.com/season-11/philippians>

²⁷ Only let your manner of life be worthy^[a] of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹ For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰ engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Christ's Example of Humility

***2** So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.*

Footnotes

a. [*Philippians 1:27*](#) Greek Only behave as citizens worthy