

Series: **Together for the Gospel**

Together for the Gospel, part 2

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Scripture: Philippians 1:27-30

²⁷Whatever 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 one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel

²⁸without 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. ²⁹For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him, ³⁰since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

Outline

1. Stand together for the gospel
2. Strive together for the gospel
3. Suffer together for the gospel

Group Session

Opening Questions

- What has God done for you that would cause you to desire to live for Him?
- What does it mean to live a life “worthy of the gospel of Christ? If we took this commandment seriously, how would it change the way your life looks?

How to live a worthy life:

1. Stand together for the Gospel.

The only way to live a life worthy of the Gospel is through Jesus Christ. He is the Gospel, He is the power we need to live for Him. Without Jesus there is NO way to please the Father. We could never do it on our own.

Acts 17:24-27 24“The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. 25And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. 26From one man he

made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. 27 God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. 28 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

The first step to living a life worth of the Gospel, by which we have been called, is to stand firm about the truth of Jesus in the face of a culture that rejects His Truth. The rub comes when we are supposed to be loving and firm and true about the Gospel.

Have you ever experienced a moment when you struggled with standing firm on the Truth of Jesus and offending a friend? How did you respond?

2. Strive together for the Gospel.

You can never have unity as a Body of Christ without a purpose. What is the common purpose we have as the Church? Why do you think that people in the church often have differing purposes? Do you think this is Biblical?

Unity is so important to Jesus that he spent most of his last recorded prayer on earth praying that we would have unity.

John 17:20 – 26 20 "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: 23 I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. 24 "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. 25 "Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. 26 I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them."

3. Suffer together for the Gospel.

Reasons why we should willingly suffer:

1. Our suffering serves as a proof of our salvation.

- Scripture teaches that all who desire to live Godly lives will suffer persecution. How have you suffered persecution and stood firm for Jesus? If you have not experienced suffering, why not?

2. Our suffering spurs others on towards faithfulness.

- Does your life encourage others to live for Jesus?

- Has there been anyone in your life who has practically and tangibly shown you how to live for Jesus? How did they do it?

3. Our suffering is for Jesus' sake.

- Do you welcome suffering in your life, because it helps you join with Jesus in His suffering?

- Has there ever been a time in your life you chose suffering for Jesus over the easy, comfortable thing?