

A Life Worthy of the Gospel – *Philippians*

Philippians 1:27-2:11

“Having the Attitude of Christ” – November 22, 2020



Introduction

The gospel is the power of God for salvation (Rom. 1:16) and this power transforms how we live and live our lives together as followers of Christ. This unity is something we must strive for – it doesn't just happen apart from God's grace.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

- I. Stand united against outside opposition (1:27-30)
- II. Stand united against inside division (2:1-11)

Read & Discuss

1) Read [Philippians 1:27-30](#)

Paul refers to our 'manner of life,' in [v27](#) which points to how we should live as citizens of heaven ([Phil. 3:20](#)). To illustrate Paul uses the image of Roman soldiers linking their shields together, we are to stand side by side (the [testudo formation](#)) striving for the faith of the gospel. What are practical things we can do as a church family to strive *together* like this?

In [v28](#), we see that our not being frightened is a sign of destruction, a warning, for those who oppose the church. Take a moment to check out other places God encourages us to *not* be frightened: [Joshua 1:9](#), [Psalm 56:3-4](#), [Hebrews 13:5-6](#). Can you think of other such encouragements in Scripture? What can we learn about *how* we can be confident the way Paul describes in [v28](#)? One reason we can be paralyzed in fear is because we don't move forward in faith. How is stepping out in faith a means to battle sinful fear?

In [vv28-29](#) Paul speaks of our faith and our suffering for the sake of Christ as a gift – something that is *granted* to us. We don't *naturally* think of suffering this way. How can Paul refer to suffering this way? How does knowing Jesus was not ashamed to call us brothers and sisters help ([Heb. 2:11](#))? See also how the disciples respond, with God's help, to suffering in [Acts 5:41](#).

Additional Reading: Ephesians 4:1-3, James 5:8-9, Romans 12:16

2) Read [Philippians 2:1-11](#)

In this glorious passage, Paul reminds us who Jesus is and what He's done for our salvation. As such, he shows us both the *model* of humility we are to follow and the *means* by which we are able to follow Him. The idea that our joy is deepened by thinking of others before ourselves is not intuitive, but it is the path to joy the Bible prescribes for us. Can you think of a time you gave of yourself for the good and joy of another and experienced this joy ([2:1-2](#))?

Take some time to re-read [Philippians 2:5-11](#). What does Paul say Jesus did for our salvation? How is that an example for us in our following Jesus? How does the exaltation of Jesus in v11 offer us hope as we step out in faith and humble ourselves in obedience?

Additional Reading: Colossians 3:5-8

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

*Next week's sermon text: we turn to Philippians 2:12-18 "Shining in a dark world"
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