

## Philippians 1:27 – 2:4

### 2 Appeals for Unity so that you Live Worthy of the Gospel

#### Command: Live a life worthy of the Gospel of Christ (1:27)

#### 1. Appeal: Unity in the face of External Opposition (1:27-30)

##### a. Reality of suffering (1:28-30)

i. Experienced by Paul (v. 30)

ii. Granted by God (v. 29)

##### b. 3 Responses to opposition (1:27-28)

i. Standing firm in one spirit (1:27)

ii. Striving together with one mind (1:27)

iii. Not frightened (1:28)

#### 2. Appeal: Unity in the face of Internal Division (2:1-4)

##### a. 4 Motivations for unity (2:1)

i. Encouragement in Christ

ii. Comfort from love

iii. Participation in the Spirit

iv. Affection and sympathy

##### b. 4 Expressions of unity (2:2)

i. Mind = 'Same mind' and 'One mind'

ii. Heart = 'Same love' and 'Being in full accord'

##### c. 2 Practical contrasts for unity (2:3-4)

i. Not selfishness or conceit BUT humility (v. 3)

ii. Not looking after one's own interests BUT of others (v. 4)

### Application of Phil 1:27 – 2:4

1. What is your view about suffering and persecution? Are you scared of it? Do you understand God grants suffering for His glory and your good?
2. Reflect on your salvation and the encouragement, comfort and courage that can come from the Gospel, knowing God's love, enjoying the fellowship of the Spirit & accepting God's grace
3. Are you involved in any ministries for selfish reasons? Are you not involved in ministry for selfish reasons?
4. Are you putting your own ideas or thoughts ahead of a joint effort toward unity? Are there differences of opinion you hold that prevent you from having the same heart & mind as others at WGC?
5. Are you committed to developing unity? E.g. Will you receive correction with humility? Will you lovingly address issues of sin in people's lives? Will you allow small differences to distract you from ministry?

Reading this week: Read Phil 1:27 – 2:11 each day this week.