



Philippians

Finding Joy...

Right Where You Are

Our Citizenship

27 Only let your manner of life (conduct) be worthy 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,

Our Citizenship

Philippians 3:20 *For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,*

Our Citizenship

A pair of bright yellow rubber boots is shown stepping into dark water, creating a splash. The boots are positioned on the right side of the frame, with the water splashing upwards and outwards. The background is a dark, textured surface, possibly a wet pavement or a similar material, which reflects the light from the boots and the water.

27 Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, (ESV)

27 Just one thing: As citizens of heaven, live your life worthy worthy of the gospel of Christ, (CSB)

Living Worthy of the Gospel Means . . .

1. We should have an unexplainable unity.

²⁷ Only let your manner of life (conduct) be worthy 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,

Our Citizenship

“The church itself is not made up of natural “friends.” It is made up of natural enemies. What binds us together is not common education, common race, common income levels, common politics, common nationality, common accents, common jobs, or anything of the sort. Christians come together not because they form a natural collocation, but because they have been saved by Jesus Christ In this light they are a band of natural enemies who love one another for Jesus’ sake.”

D. A. Carson, “Love in Hard Places”, p. 61.

Living Worthy of the Gospel Means . . .

2. *We are not fearful or skittish.*

27 . . . 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.

Living Worthy of the Gospel Means . . .

- No one ever goes to heaven deservingly.
- No one ever goes to hell unwillingly.

“Heaven is a place for sinners who trust in God for their salvation. Hell is a place for sinners who chose not to trust in God for their salvation.”

C.S. Lewis

Philippians 1:27-30 ESV

Living Worthy of the Gospel Means . . .

3. We have a different attitude toward suffering.

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.

Living Worthy of the Gospel Means . . .

Matt. 5:11-12 *"Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.*

¹² "Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Living Worthy of the Gospel Means . . .

But how is suffering a gift?

“God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pain: it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world.”

C.S. Lewis, *The problem of Pain*

Philippians 1:27-30 ESV

Living Worthy of the Gospel Means . . .

- 1. We should have an unexplainable unity.*
- 2. We are not fearful or skittish.*
- 3. We have a different attitude toward suffering.*



Continuing the Discussion

- Was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
- *Did today's teaching give you any new insight on suffering? How could this help your perspective in your current situation?*