



June 4, 2023 | Pastor Keith Krell
Philippians 1:27-30 | "Citizens of Heaven on Earth"

Sermon Application Review from Phil 1:12–26

How have you seen your adversity advance the gospel (1:12–14)?

How has the Lord shaped your perspective on pain and death (1:21–24)?

Who did you help progress in the faith (1:25–26)?

Scripture References

Philippians 1:27–30

Ephesians 4:1–6

2 Timothy 3:12–14

Matthew 10:28, 32–39

2 Corinthians 11:23–29; 12:7–10

1 Peter 1:6–7

Hebrews 2:10

Study Questions

1. How are you impacted by the phrase: "As citizens of heaven, live your life" (1:27a CSB)? How do you think your Christian citizenship relates to earthly allegiances to your own city or country? What specific strengths does Crossroads possess in areas of unity, courage, and perseverance? How does CBC model the gospel in the community?
2. How do you "strive together for the faith of the gospel" with other believers both local and global (1:27)? Where do you see evidence of Crossroads doing this as a church? Where have you observed such evidence in the global church? In what ways do you seek to maintain unity in the body of Christ? Would those who know you say that you love the church and uphold unity? Read Ephesians 4:1–6 and John 17.
3. When have you witnessed local or global opposition to the gospel (1:27)? How can you best confront the resistance that you personally face due to your allegiance to Christ? What are some ways you can encourage others to stand firm amidst opposition?
4. Are you currently intimidated by an unbeliever (1:28)? If so, why does this individual intimidate you? What is the worst thing this person can do to you? Read Matthew 10:32–33 and 2 Timothy 1:7–8. How can you overcome your fear of people? Is there a bold believer you respect who can help you courageously witness for Christ?
5. When (if ever) have you suffered for Christ (1:29–30)? What was this experience like? What has God taught you through the persecution you endured? Read 2 Timothy 3:12; Acts 14:22. How has suffering been a gracious gift in your life? How can you begin to see the positive fruit that only occurs through suffering?

Recommended Reading

John Foxe, *Foxe's Book of Martyrs* (1563)

Nik Ripken, *The Insanity of Obedience: Walking with Jesus in Tough Places* (B&H, 2014)

Tom Doyle, *Standing in the Fire: Courageous Christians Living in Frightening Times* (Thomas Nelson, 2017)

Tom & JoAnn Doyle, *Women Who Risk: Secret Agents for Jesus in the Muslim World* (Thomas Nelson, 2021)