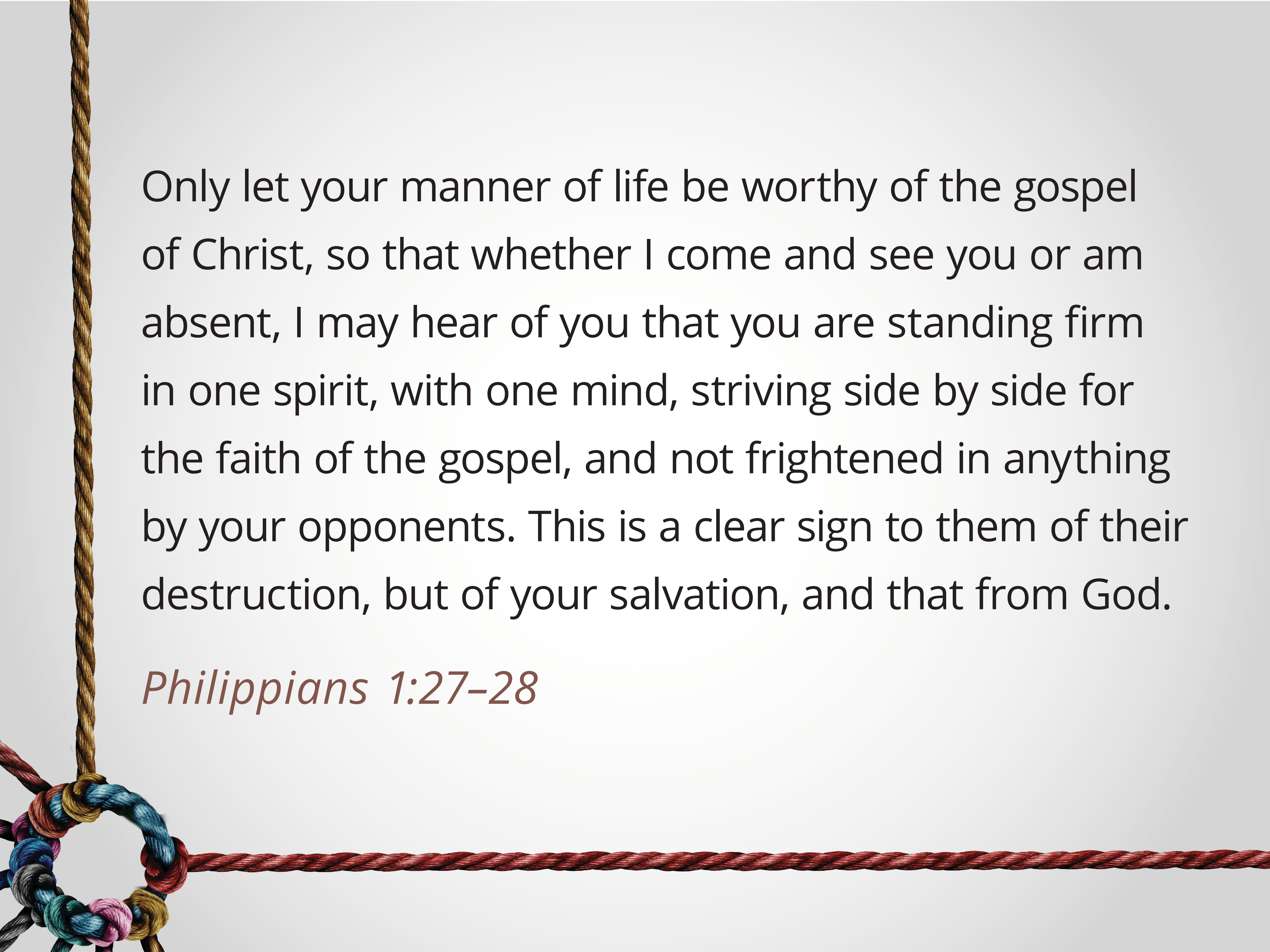




PHILIPPIANS

CITIZENS OF HEAVEN

Philippians 1:27–2:4



Only let your manner of life 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, 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.

Philippians 1:27-28

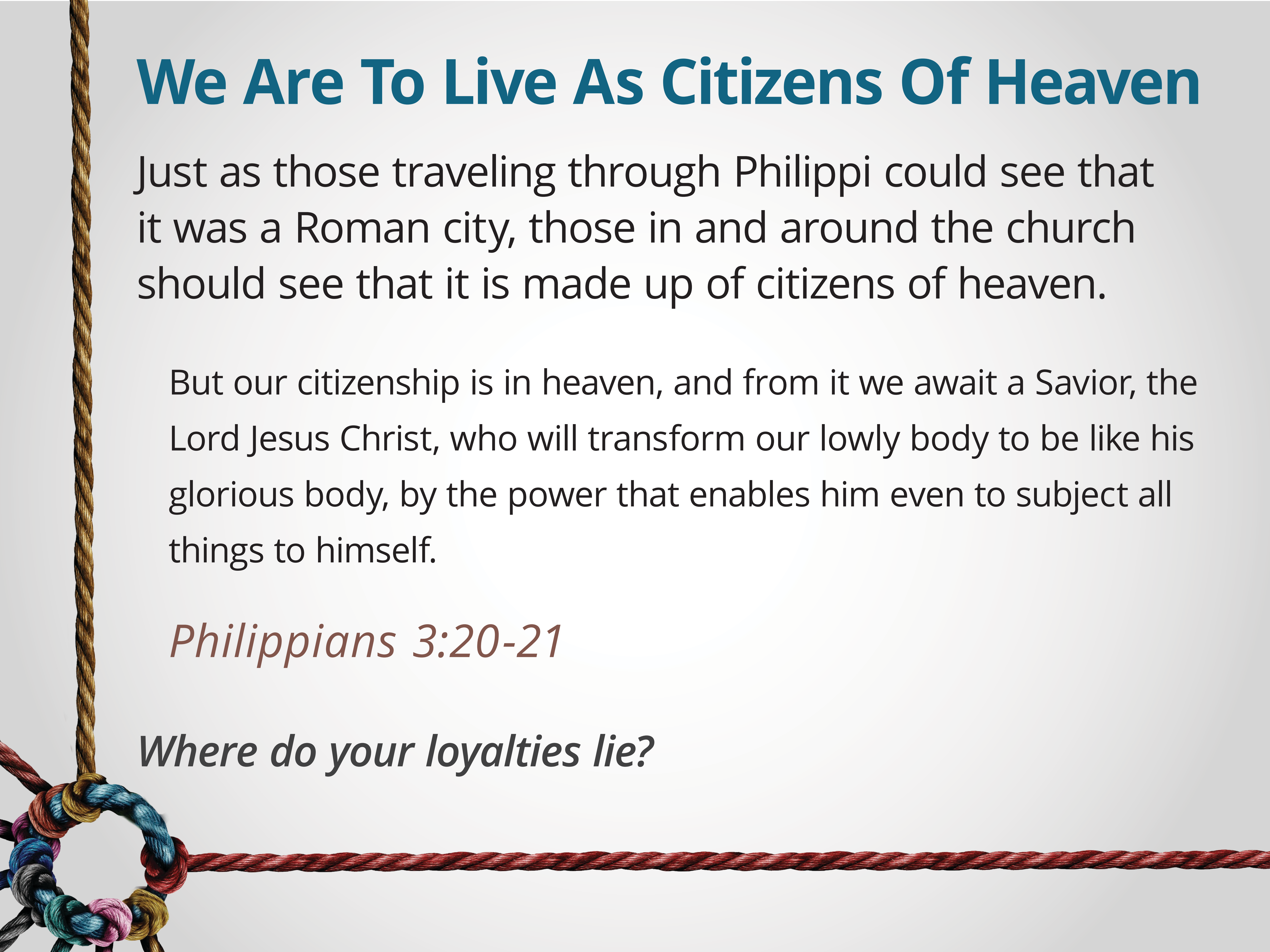
We Are To Live As Citizens Of Heaven

Just as those traveling through Philippi could see that it was a Roman city, those in and around the church should see that it is made up of citizens of heaven.

But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

Philippians 3:20-21

Where do your loyalties lie?





How Do We Live As Citizens Of Heaven?

With steadfastness and consistency.

No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits,
since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him.

2 Timothy 2:4

Are you willing to stand firm to follow Jesus?



How Do We Live As Citizens Of Heaven?

By striving side by side with each other.

I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.

1 Corinthians 1:10

Are you united on mission with those around you?



How Do We Live As Citizens Of Heaven?

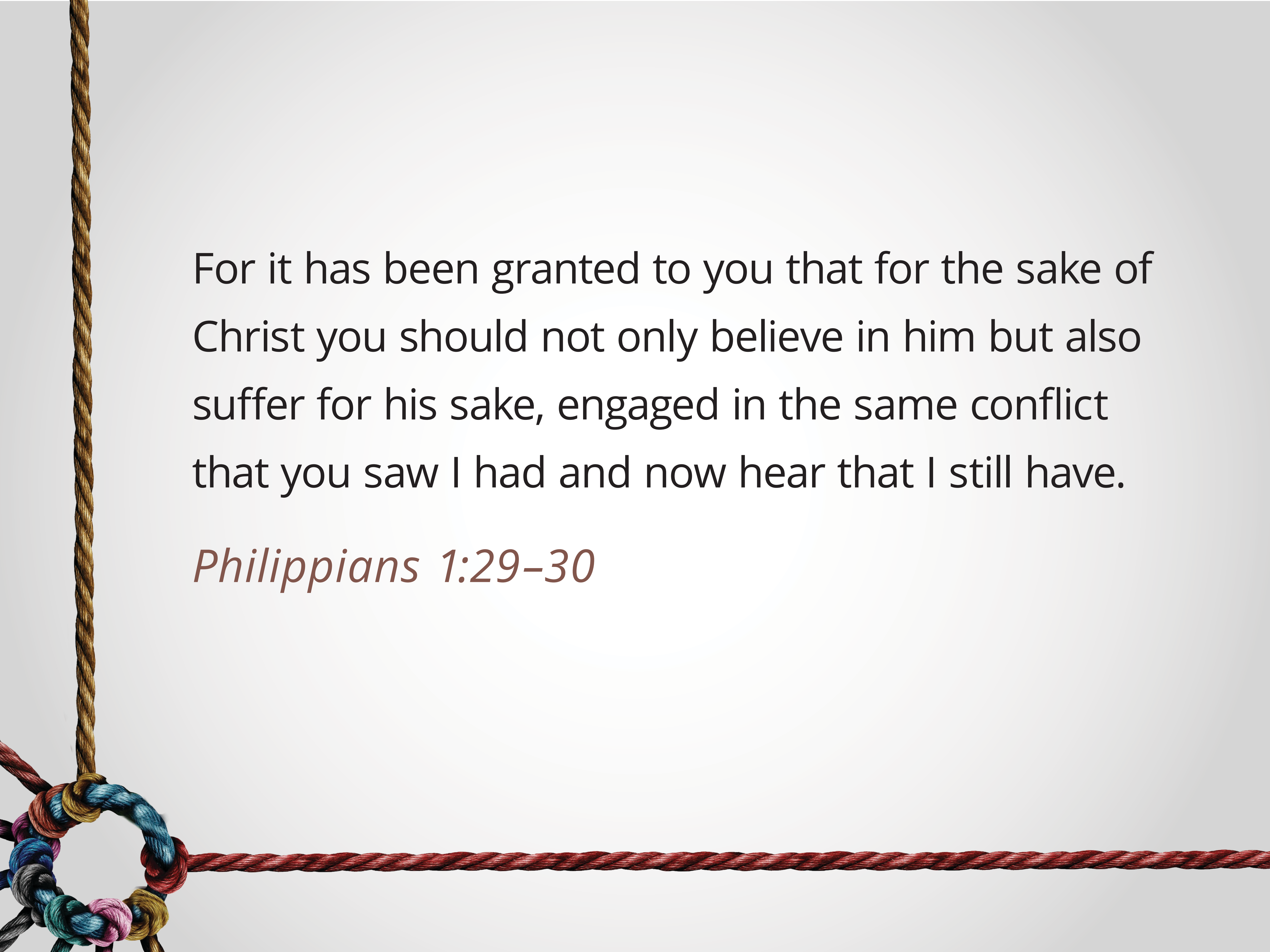
By being courageous.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalm 27:1

What on this earth is bigger than God?



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, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Philippians 1:29–30

A decorative graphic of a rope is positioned on the left side of the slide, extending vertically from the top to the bottom. At the bottom left, the rope is knotted and then extends horizontally across the bottom of the slide. The rope is multi-colored, featuring shades of blue, pink, yellow, and red.


An Unlikely Grace

We love the gift of salvation, but suffering is also a gift.

Then they left the presence of the council; rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.

Acts 5:41

Do you rejoice when you suffer for Christ's sake?

A decorative element on the left side of the page consists of a thick, braided rope. The top part is a single strand of light brown rope. Below it, there is a complex knot made of several strands in blue, red, yellow, and pink. A horizontal strand of red rope extends from the knot across the bottom of the page.

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, and participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Philippians 2:1-4



How Do We Live United As Citizens?

By being of one mind.

Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common.

Acts 4:32

Are you Christ-focused or me-focused?



How Do We Live United As Citizens?

By living in humility towards each other.

He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble His way.

Psalm 25:9

Are you living in humility towards those around you?

A decorative graphic of a rope runs vertically down the left side of the page. At the bottom left, there is a knot made of several different colored ropes (blue, red, yellow, pink). A horizontal red rope runs across the bottom of the page, starting from the knot and extending to the right edge.

To Get Rid Of Selfish Ambition, Christians Should:

- Hold their tongues, refusing to speak uncharitably about a Christian brother
- Cultivate the humility that comes from understanding that they, like Paul, are the greatest of sinners and can only live in God's sight by his grace
- Listen "long and patiently" so that they will understand their fellow Christian's need
- Refuse to consider their time and calling so valuable that they cannot be interrupted to help with unexpected needs, no matter how small or menial

From *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

A decorative graphic of a rope runs vertically down the left side of the page. At the bottom left, a knot is formed by several ropes in blue, pink, yellow, and red. A single red rope runs horizontally across the bottom of the page, starting from the knot and extending to the right edge.

To Get Rid Of Selfish Ambition, Christians Should:

- Bear the burden of their brothers and sisters in the Lord, both by preserving their freedom and by forgiving their sinful abuse of that freedom
- Declare God's word to their fellow believers when they need to hear it
- Understand that Christian authority is characterized by service and does not call attention to the person who performs the service

From *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer