

Joy In The Middle

A Study Of Philippians

1

Philippians 1:27–30

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. 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.

2

Character Matters

Encouragement And Advancement

- Not only hearing but applying
- Not only applying but advancing
- Salvation through grace then demonstrated through life

3

Character Matters

Encouragement And Advancement

Oneness In Church

- Notice the posture – standing firm
- One spirit
- One mind striving
 - Side by side
 - For faith of the gospel
 - Not frightened of opponents

4

Character Matters

Encouragement And Advancement

Oneness In Church

The Church Standing Together

- Clear sign of the destruction of the unbelievers
- Evidence of the work of the gospel

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Character Matters

Encouragement And Advancement

Oneness In Church

The Church Standing Together

Proper view of suffering

- Expect suffering
- Remember God's control
- Evidence of testimonies of others

6

Philippians 2:1–4

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any 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. (ESV)

7

Encouragement Matters

In Christ

- Demonstration of God's plan for you
- Love of the Father

8

Encouragement Matters

In Christ

Through His Body – The Church

- Comfort from love
- Working of the Holy Spirit
- Affection and sympathy – mutual compassion

9

Encouragement Matters

In Christ

Through His Body – The Church

Joy From The Church

- Same mind
- Same love
- Full of one accord and one of mind

10

Encouragement Matters

In Christ

Through His Body – The Church

Joy From The Church

Definition Of Living Humbly

- Nothing out of selfish ambition
- No conceit – pride
- Count others more significant than yourselves
- Looking out for the interest of others

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Joy In The Middle Of...

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