

Your Identity in Suffering

Philippians 1:27-30

27a Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ:

Conversation:

27b...that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit.

Stand fast:

One Spirit:

[Eph 4:2-3 KJV] 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

[Psa 133:1 KJV] 1 [[A Song of degrees of David.]] Behold, how good and how pleasant [it is] for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Key Question: If Christ came back today, are we standing fast in _____?

Key: Being a leader means leading others into _____.

27c...with one mind¹ striving² together³ for the faith of the gospel;

[Eph 4:15 KJV] 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, [even] Christ:

[Eph 5:23 KJV] 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

[1Co 2:16 KJV] 16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

¹MBT Ministry Principle: We have a _____ in the word of God.

Striving together:

²Key Question: Are you _____ for the faith of the gospel?

³Key Question: Are you at work _____ for the faith of the gospel?

Key: Co-Laborers are _____ than friends.

28 And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

Evident token of perdition:

[Act 6:8-15 KJV] 8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people. 9 Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called [the synagogue] of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen. 10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake. 11 Then they suborned men, which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and [against] God. 12 And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon [him], and caught him, and brought [him] to the council, 13 And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law: 14 For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us. 15 And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

[Act 7:54-60 KJV] 54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with [their] teeth. 55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, 56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. 57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, 58 And cast [him] out of the city, and stoned [him]: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. 59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon [God], and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. 60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake; 30 Having the same conflict which ye saw in me, and now hear [to be] in me.

Key Question: How will God _____ for your good?

Key: Be full of faith and trust God _____ you find yourself in this morning.