

United Unfrightened Fighters for Gospel Faith

Philippians 1:27-30

Big Idea: Live out your gospel citizenship as a united, unfrightened fighter for the faith.

Outline:

- 1. Live Out Who You Are in the Gospel
 - 1) A Summary Command
 - 2) Live Out Your Gospel Citizenship
 - 3) Live Up to Your Gospel Identity
- 2. As a United, Unfrightened Fighter for the Faith
 - 1) Fighting for the Faith through Striving and Suffering
 - 2) United Side-by-Side with Other Christians
 - 3) Unfrightened by Opponents

Discussion Questions:

- 1. What are some privileges and responsibilities of being an American citizen? What are some privileges and responsibilities of being a "gospel citizen?"
- 2. Most of the time, we are "proud to be an American" as the Philippians were likely proud of their Roman citizenship. Are you eager to be recognized as a gospel citizen...or are there any times you are hesitant to admit that you are a Christian? Do the people around you (neighbors, work colleagues, friends) know that you are a Christian?
- 3. What does it mean to "live worthy" of the gospel? And how is that different from "earning" the gospel's blessings?
- 4. What are some ways in which the Christian life involves "striving," "struggling," and "fighting"?
- 5. How would you resolve the tension between passages that describe the Christian life in terms of rest and blessing (Matthew 11:28-30) and those that characterize it in terms of discipline and sacrifice (2 Timothy 2:1-7).
- 6. How should we expect to encounter suffering for Christ in our modern-day western context? In what ways will it be similar and different to how 1st century Christians suffered for their faith?
- 7. Do you think people expect us to be flustered by mocking and attacks against our faith? What does it communicate when we remain unafraid of their opposition?