



What Matters Most

COURAGE

Philippians 1:22-30

Outline:

Four Courageous Steps

1. Stepping into the “Tight Spots” Together (22-24)
2. Stepping into the Unknown Together - “Trailblazing” (25-26)
3. Standing and Striving Together - with No Fear (27-28)
4. Suffering Together (29-30)

Discussion Questions:

1. Who are the people in your life that you call when you’re in a tight spot (wrestling with an issue or problem)? Why do you call them?
2. What are things that you strive after (v. 27)? Specifically, when it comes to your walk with God, what are some of your goals (v. 19-26)? Discuss the importance of setting goals for growth in life as a fully devoted follower of Christ.
3. What should the church be united around (v. 27)? Read Acts 2:42-47. How did the first church model for all of us what matters most as we do life together?
4. In verses 28-30, Paul points to suffering as a part of life for a believer in Jesus. Do you (or would you) willingly suffer for Christ? How can you become more aware and involved in the lives of believers around the world who are suffering today? Get more insight about believers suffering around the world by going to the Voice of the Martyr’s website at persecution.com.

If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³ I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴ but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. ²⁵ Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶ so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. ²⁹ For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, ³⁰ since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

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