

I D L M G A A N  
N B E I N G T O  
T F N N L C N I  
E L D D L O A T  
R O T R T V V C  
E A C H O C C E  
S L E O L C R F  
T R T I E A C F  
S O L E O S L A  
ACCORD AFFECTION ALSO  
BEING EACH INTERESTS  
LOVE MIND OTHERS

→Philippians 2:1–4

**FEB** Preposition, part 5: The Joy of  
**14** Familiarity (Philippians 1:27–2:4)  
**2010**

→Philippians 1:27–2:4

Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel,

and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that from God.

For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,

having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear *is* in me.

Therefore if *there is* any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy,

fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.

*Let nothing be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.

Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

→The Familiar Gospel,  
1:27-28

The Gospel introduces real living

- It translates us from dying to living.
- It is the good news.

The Gospel is like receiving bad news and then good news.

- The bad news is that you are a sinner who has offended a holy God and you have earned death and eternal punishment in Hell
- The good news is that God made a way for you to be forgiven. All you have to do is admit that you are a sinner, believe that Jesus died to take your punishment, and confess your sinfulness to God, asking for His forgiveness

The Gospel produces worthy living: Holding our ground, Having one spirit, Having one mind, Having one battle.

The Gospel produces confident living. We must be careful to have the

right clauses modifying the right clauses.

- We are to strive together unafraid of our adversaries
- Our striving together is a proof, or evidence, of their perdition (certain destruction resulting from being unsaved)
- Our striving together is a proof, or evidence, of our salvation as it creates a tie that binds us together unnaturally

Our gathering is consistent with what the gospel produces, 2 (see how this compares with 1:27)

Our gathering is Considerate, 3-4

- humble
- authentic
- loving
- supporting

### → The Familiar Grants, 1:29-30

Grants are something we are given

We are given the grant of belief

We are given the grant of suffering

- The opportunity to suffer for Christ
- The ability to suffer well.

### → The Joy of Familiarity

There is a joy that comes from experiencing that which is familiar.

- This is not about the familiarity of living in a rut
- This is about the familiarity of living in Gospel-based, Gospel-centered, and Gospel-focused community.
- This is about living in a dynamic, changing, and challenging context where the Gospel is familiar and the people around us are made familiar by the Gospel

We must allow the Gospel to become central to our individual lives and to our church life. It is not just the basis of our salvation—though it certainly is that. It is also the basis of our existence as a church as we exist because of the Gospel and we exist to live and proclaim the Gospel.

### → The Familiar Gathering, 2:1-4

Our gathering is conditional, 1

- Our relationship with Jesus creates the opportunity to be a help
- Our love for each other that creates the desire to be a help
- The Holy Spirit's enabling creates the ability to be a help

### → Ephesians 6:12

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

### → Jude 22–23

And on some have compassion, making a distinction; but others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

### → If You Have...

In 1:27 Paul had written about living the Christian life in harmony with the message on which it is based. He followed that message with a call to show forth spiritual unity. This unity is possible because of the reality of the four qualities mentioned in 2:1. The "if" clauses, being translations of first-class conditions in Greek, speak of certainties. So in this passage "if" may be translated "since." Paul wrote here about realities, not questionable things. Paul appealed on the basis of (a) **encouragement from being united with Christ . . .** (b) **comfort from His love . . .** (c) **fellowship with the Spirit . . .** (d) **tenderness and compassion.**

Walvoord, J. F., Zuck, R. B., & Dallas Theological Seminary. (1983-). *The Bible knowledge commentary : An exposition of the scriptures* (V 2, p 653). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

### → Therefore

The "therefore" implies that he is here expanding on the exhortation (Php 1:27), "In one Spirit, with one mind (*soul*)." He urges *four influencing motives* in this verse, to inculcate the four Christian duties corresponding respectively to them (Php 2:2). "That ye be *like-minded*, having the same *love, of one accord, of one mind*"; (1) "If there be (with you) *any consolation in Christ*," that is, *any consolation of which Christ is the source*, leading you to wish *to console me* in my afflictions borne for Christ's sake, ye owe it to me to grant my request "that ye be like-minded" [Chrysostom and Estius]: (2) "If there be any comfort of (that is, flowing from) love," the adjunct of "consolation in Christ"; (3) "If any fellowship of (communion together as Christians, flowing from joint participation in) the Spirit" (2Co 13:14). As *Pagans* meant literally those who were of one village, and *drank of one fountain*, how much greater is the union which conjoins those who drink of the same Spirit! (1Co 12:4, 13) [Grotius]: (4) "If any bowels (tender emotions) and mercies (compassions)," the adjuncts of "fellowship of the Spirit." The opposites of the two pairs, into which the four fall, are reprobated, Php 2:3, 4.

Jamieson, Robert, A. R. Fausset, A. R. Fausset et al. *A Commentary, Critical and Explanatory, on the Old and New Testaments*, Php 2:1. Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997.