

OUR CONDUCT

PHILIPPIANS 1:27

BACKGROUND: Paul reminds us in this verse that our conduct should be worthy of the gospel of Jesus Christ. To understand the meaning of the gospel, please read II Timothy 1:8-10, fn 1:9-10 In this lesson, we will see that long standing feuds are unacceptable in the church body.

IS HIGHLY VALUABLE. The Holy Spirit uses your very words, your emotions, and your attitudes to attract lost souls to a saving knowledge by the gospel of Jesus Christ. Every believer's conduct is on display, drawing attention to the results of a life fully given to the power of the Holy Spirit. It is then that your conduct is worthy of the gospel of Jesus and is highly valuable. (**Philippians 1:27, Ephesians 4:1-2, fn 4:1-2, II Thessalonians 1:11-12, fn 1:11-12, Matthew 5:13-16, fn 5:14-16**) *Why is your life and your life's story so highly valuable?*

UNIFIES. There are those who leverage their love and acceptance of others to justify their unforgiveness and their "unchristian" attitude of superiority; but the believer who practices humility displays unity, which is a picture of the relationship of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. He or she remembers Jesus' prayer for unity and oneness among believers. This humble believer brings contagious love and unity to the church body. (**Philippians 1:27, fn 1:27, John 17:20-23, fn 17:20, fn 17:21-23[1st], fn 17:21-23[2nd], Ephesians 4:3-7, fn 4:3, Colossians 3:12-17, fn 3:13, fn 3:15, Philippians 2:1-5, fn 2:3**) *How could you help to bring unity to your church body?*

CONTENDS FOR THE FAITH. Dave Veerman says "The main things are the plain things and the plain things are the main things." The gospel of Jesus Christ is the most important thing on which the believer is to stand firm along with the essentials of the Christian faith. As you contend for these truths, the Holy Spirit will enable your conduct to exhibit kindness and gentleness. (**Philippians 1:27, II Timothy 2:22-26, fn 2:23-26, Jude 3, fn 3[2nd], I Timothy 6:11-12, fn 6:11-12**) *Where does pursuing unity and contending for the faith begin?*

Are you taking time to experience the presence of the Holy Spirit with the Living Word teaching you and giving you His joy, His love, and His peace?