

## Philippians: As Citizens 3

Philippians 1:27-30

3/29/20

How did God speak to you through Sunday's message on Philippians?

### **POINT:** As Citizens, STAND Worthy

1. Read Philippians 1.27-30 in two or three translations. In v27, the wording "live in a manner of life" translates a Greek verb that directly appeals to the citizenship of the Philippians, "conduct yourselves as citizens" (*politeuō*, cf. polity, police, the word 'city' is *polis*). Compare this word in Phil 3.20. The Philippians enjoy a privileged citizenship of Rome as a colony city of Rome. Paul speaks to them as citizens of heaven, as a personal colony of Christ and he wants them to live worthy as "citizens" not of Rome but of Christ.

What does Citizenship mean to you? What do you think this means to the Philippians as Paul speaks to them in v27-30?

2. What does 'stand firm in one Spirit' mean? Does the Holy Spirit unify believers? How?
3. Why is unity and oneness so important? What would it prove to the city of Philippi if they stood united for their faith in Christ even should such unity lead to suffering (see v28-30)?

4. Read v30. Do you think of suffering as a privilege or abuse? Why? Why might Paul think of it as a privilege?

5. Are you prepared to suffer for the sake of Christ? What does that look like at any time?