KEEPING THE MAIN THING, THE MAIN THING
October 4, 2026

TEXT—Phil. 1:27-30

Rom. 1:16; Jn. 3:16; Jn. 1:12; Gal .2:20

1. CHRIST-CENTERED CONSISTENCY (Phil. 1:27 a) — Paul challenged these believers to consistently practice their beliefs in Christ. This is the real acid test of their faith in Jesus and the 'main thing' in ours.

Lk. 9:23; Phil. 3:20

2 Cor. 5:20

Rom. 5:1-2; Gal. 5:16

Application—When it comes to Christ-centered consistency does your everyday conduct honor Christ in speech, work, relationships, finances, online behavior, inner purity when no one is watching? What needs to be more consistent. Prayerfully pursue this.

****Regarding sin, let repentance be normal. A response worthy of the Gospel means honest confession, rejecting sinful behavior, pursuing Christ.**

2. CHRIST-CENTERED COOPERATION (Phil. 1:27 b)—Paul encourages these believers to work together in unity for the purpose of making a united witness for Jesus. He uses athletic language to describe the church striving together as a team focused on one common goal.

Eph. 4:1-7, 11-16

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Application—Learn to replace divisive criticism with encourage that strengthens. Ask…How can I help this church advance the Gospel?

****Guard unity through humility, quick forgiveness, truthful communication and prayer for fellow believers.**

3. CHRIST-CENTERED CONFIDENCE (Phil. 1:28)—Pursuing Christ in a fallen world will eventually lead to opposition and persecution, yet we are not to be afraid. The same God who saves us will give us courage to face opponents and will eventually bring His judgment upon these opponents**.**

Ps. 27:1; Prov. 29:25; Mt. 10:28

Application—Pray for courage before conversations where faith may be unwelcome. Remember that opponents are ultimately not your enemies but people in need of mercy, truth and the Gospel. Let it shine!

4. CHRIST-HONORING COMMUNITY (Phil. 1:29-30)—Finally Paul reminds these Christians that the same God who gave them the gift of salvation gives them grace to endure suffering for the glory of Christ. This unique fellowship of salvation and suffering in Jesus' name is the shared calling of every Christ follower**.**

Eph. 2:8-10; 1 Pet. 2:20-21

Application—Pray for persecuted Christians and learn from their perseverance. **Prepare for suffering before it happens by grounding your identity in Christ, Scripture, prayer, and Christian community.

Beloved, Let us pursue Christ centered Consistency, Cooperation, Confidence, & Community. If you don't know Jesus, I invite you to trust in Christ (ABC). To every believer I invite you to Honor Christ by keeping the Gospel the Main Thing.