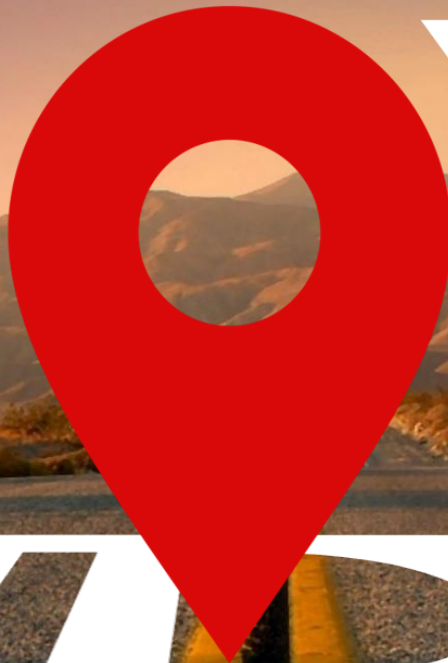


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**RIDE**

**A ROAD TRIP THROUGH PHILIPPIANS**

# #BETTERTOGETHER



## Philippians 1:27-2:11 (ESV)

27 Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, 28 and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God.

29 For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, 30 engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

2:1 So, if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, 2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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**Better Together**

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**#JOYRIDE**

## Philippians 1:27-2:5 various (ESV)

27 Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, 28 and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God.



...2 So, if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, 2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

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

5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Jesus Christ,...

The “unity” theme is very evident in all of Paul’s Letter to the church in Philippi.

Jeremiah’s main points from last week:

- “Never Travel Alone”
- “Lean on Each Other”
- “Push Each Other to Be Better”

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**“Unity” is not an  
option in the  
“Body of Christ”**

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**Everyone participates,  
drivers and passengers**

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## Philippians 1:1 (ESV)

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,  
To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at  
Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:

- This letter to the church at Philippi was written to “everyone”. All the saints and leadership
- No Christian is exempt from “Unity” being a main priority for their lives.

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F150 **“The day” Paul** F150  
**encouraged “unity”**

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Phil. 2: 1-2 (ESV)

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,

2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

Amid one of the most very difficult and uncertain times for Paul, his chief concern for the Philippian church was;

- A joyful thankfulness in all things, and
- A oneness (unity) in the Body of Christ



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**“The Day” Christ  
prayed for you.**

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John 17:1-23 various (ESV)

11b- Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

20 and 21 “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

John 17:1-23 various (ESV)

22-23 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

- At the most critical and difficult moment of Jesus' assignment here on earth. His prayer for us all, was that we would be "one" (unified) as He and His Father were "one".

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**The Holy Spirit's heart  
towards "disunity"**

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## Ephesians 4:29-32 (ESV)

29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. 32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

## Ephesians 4:29-32 (Message)

29 Watch the way you talk. Let nothing foul or dirty come out of your mouth. Say only what helps, each word a gift.

30 Don't grieve God. Don't break his heart. His Holy Spirit, moving and breathing in you, is the most intimate part of your life, making you fit for himself. Don't take such a gift for granted.

## Ephesians 4:29-32 (Message)

31–32 Make a clean break with all cutting, backbiting, profane talk. Be gentle with one another, sensitive. Forgive one another as quickly and thoroughly as God in Christ forgave you.

- Any talk and/or actions that cause “disunity”, grieves the Holy Spirit
- It opposes the very direction of Jesus’ reconciling, unifying, new-creation work in the believer, and
- It literally kills the “church” that God loves.



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Why is “oneness” and  
“unity” so important to  
God ?

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- A unified church gives the strongest evidences of the truth of the gospel and provides the church's most powerful witness and earthy representation of the full character of God as seen in the God-Head.
- The selfless interactions between the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, are most effectively represented to the world today by a church that can demonstrate and operate in a high degree of biblical "unity".

## Philippians 1:27-28 (ESV)

Paul wrote, 27 Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, 28 and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God.

## John 17:20-23 (Message)

I'm praying not only for them, But also for those who will believe in me and their witness about me. The goal is for all of them to become one heart and mind, Just as you, Father, are in me and I in you. So they might be of one heart and mind with us. Then the world might believe that you, in fact, sent me. The same glory you gave me, I gave them, so they'll be as unified and together as we are. I in them and you in me. Then they'll be mature in this one-ness, and give the godless world evidence that you've sent me and loved them in the same way you've loved me.

- When the rest of the world can't seem to agree on anything and/or can not stand to be around people who are different, a church where natural enemies become siblings in Christ is an unbelievably powerful alternative to the emptiness of the "world".
- "Unity" in the church is not an option... and is a critical manifestation of a Spirit empowered church bent on representing Jesus.

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What “unity” is not

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## Unity is not:

- Uniformity
- Conformity
- or Agreement
  
- Unity is an attitude of the heart that is manifested in sacrificial love.
- It is shown by putting the needs of others before our own.

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**Jesus provides the  
ultimate road map on  
how we develop “unity”**

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## Philippians 2:3-11 (ESV)

3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,

7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.  
8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- There is a day coming very soon that every living creature will bow in humility to the authority given to Jesus by the Father.
- For many, it will be too late to do it voluntarily
- But until that day arrives... "unity" in the church has to "look like something", to a watching world who is watching to see if this is real enough for us to actually walk it out.

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F150 **“Unity”** ... RAPTOR  
**resolve to walk it out**

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**Romans 12:9-13 (ESV)**

**Marks of the diligent Christian**

**9 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. 10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. 11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.**

**13 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.**

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