



LEADER'S NOTES

PHILIPPIANS: RESURRECTED LIFE

Stand Firm (*Philippians 1:27-30*)

Question 1 - give your group time to focus on our scripture for the week. Take your time with this question. You should have each group member mention at least one thing that strikes them as they spend time with this scripture. It is easy to let this first question move too fast as people consider their thoughts. Encourage people to look at the passage in their Bibles/App, rather than just listening and then trying to remember what was read.

Paul urges us to live a life worthy of the gospel. That is the focus of **Question 2**. You may want to spend some time before the group meeting, thinking through what it means to live a worthy life. The word "worthy" is closely linked with the idea of worth. So Christians need to conduct themselves in a manner that shows the worth of the gospel. Another way of saying it is how you live should display what you think the gospel is worth. The question also asks if you think living a life worthy of the gospel is possible. This may prompt some interesting discussion in your group. Ultimately, because Paul commands it, we must believe it is possible.

Question 3 - discusses Paul's command to stand firm in the Spirit. This question provides an opportunity for storytelling. I would encourage you to prepare a story in advance to share with your group.

Question 4 - discusses Paul's command to strive together as one for the faith of the gospel. The question asks for the personal experience of your group members. It also asks group members to share what stops Christians from working together in unity. I think this should provide some good discussion for your group. Some answers to what stops Christians from working together would be pride, misaligned priorities, and a selfish perspective to name a few.

Question 5 - discusses Paul's command to not have fear. In this question, I ask your group to pause and pray for persecuted Christians worldwide. You can get more information on the persecuted church at www.persecution.com. The discussion also deals with fear and how we overcome it. Please share your personal experience. You could employ 1 John 4:18. You might also discuss the principle that gaining experience gives confidence. So, some fears are conquered as we directly confront them.