PRESS ON

IN CONFIDENCE

**A STUDY IN PHILIPPIANS AND COLOSSIANS**

 **LESSON 13 PHILIPPIANS 4:1-5**

1. What did you find convicting or inspiring from **Philippians 3:15-21**,and what difference did it make in your week?

2. Pray and ask for the “same mind in the Lord” as you study this lesson on unity in relationships. Then read **Philippians 4:1-5.** How does the way Paul addressed his readers in **V1** set up well what he is going to teach them?

3. From **V1,** what do you think it means to stand firm in the Lord?

4. **V1** starts with the word, “Therefore” and ends with “stand firm in the Lord in this way,” which indicates instruction was provided previously from **Chapter 3**. What ways were given to stand firm regarding:

* Your focus (**3:13b-14**)
* Your role models(**3:17**)
* Your mindset(**3:19b-20**)

5. a) Describe the type of struggles you face to stand firm in Christ given today’s culture. Share a specific experience.

b) How could each of these verses encourage you to stand firm in those struggles?

* **2 Corinthians 1:21**
* **Galatians 5:1**
* **Ephesians 6:14**

6. It is often difficult to stand firm. How can you derive comfort from these verses?

* **Psalm 33:11**
* **Psalm 89:2**
* **Psalm 119:89**

7. a) Put in your own words what Paul was pleading for and affirming in **Philippians 4:2-3.**

b) What could it look like for Euodia & Syntyche “to be of the same mind in the Lord” (refer to **Philippians 2:2-7**)?

8. a) Paul asked for a mediator to help these women (**V3**). Explain why reconciliation between believers is important, and how the role of a trusted mediator could be helpful?

b) What is a past or current divisive situation that comes to your mind? What redemptive steps were taken (or could have been taken)?

9. In **V4-5**, Paul began his final exhortations to his brothers & sisters in Christ. What did he say, and how could those three exhortations have tied into his appeal for unity?

10. In your opinion, in what ways is rejoicing manifested, and what does it look like for you?

11. Paul said, “let your gentleness be evident to all” (**V5**). What aspect of gentleness is most relevant to you from these verses:

* **Proverbs 15:1**
* **Titus 3:1-2**
* **1 Peter 3:3-4**
* **1 Peter 3:15**

12. As you think about *pressing on in confidence*, in what specific way do you need God’s help in:

* Standing Firm
* Staying United
* Showing Gentleness

**DIGGING DEEPER**

 1. One theme in this Lesson is unity. How do these verses about unity personally guide you?

* **1 Corinthians 1:10**
* **Galatians 3:28**
* **Ephesians 4:3**

 2. According to these verses, explain why it is important to be in unity:

* **Psalm 133:1**
* **John 17:22-23**
* **1 Corinthians 12:26**

3. a) Write out the Suggested Memory Verses: **Philippians 4:4-5**

 b) Review your response to Question 12 and form a prayer.

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| **NAME PRAYER REQUEST** |
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