**A Life Worthy of the Gospel**

**The Word**

Read together Philippians 1:27-30

**The Big Idea**

Paul encourages us to live lives that demonstrate how much Jesus is worth to us. Living that kind of life publically can be challenging, and it requires courage and comradery with other believers.

**Questions for Discussion**

1. The command to live a live worthy of Christ is a common command in Scripture. As you considered that command again on Sunday, what specific idea stood out to you or was new to you?

2. Consider the idea of running all our decisions and actions through the lens of, “is what I’m about to do worthy of Jesus? Will it demonstrate what Jesus is worth to me?” What comes up for you as you consider that question?

3. Consider the theme of courage from Sunday’s message. The Philippians faced significant opposition as they lived “the Jesus life” in Philippi. We don’t currently face that kind of opposition, but living for Jesus publically still requires courage. As you look at your life right now, where would truly living for Jesus require courage? What’s one specific way you want to be more courageous in the coming weeks?

4. Consider the theme of comradery. Is there anyone specific you want to come alongside and encourage and support in the coming weeks?

**Digging Deeper: Sermon Outline**

I. Live worthy of the gospel of Christ (v. 27)

 A. Worthy (Greek: Axios) = equal in weight, corresponding appropriately to

 1. In the 1st century market place, when scales were balanced they were “worthy”

2. So the way we live our lives should correspond to the weight/greatness of the gospel

 B. Consider the word “worth”

 1. What is Jesus worth? How valuable is he?

2. Live in a way that reflects his worth

 3. Every human being lives according to what he/she thinks is valuable/worthy

C. We need to be constantly taking in the value and goodness of the gospel of Jesus in order to then live accordingly

 1. This is not about morality or religion

 2. This is about what you love, what you treasure

D. We should filter our daily decisions through this lens: Is what I’m about to do worthy of Jesus? Does it reflect how much I value Jesus?

II. Paul is encouraging the Philippians to live their Jesus lives publically even in the face of opposition

A. The opposition may have taken various forms

 Ex: social pressure, occupational persecution, political persecution

B. They will need courage

 1. Don’t be afraid of your opponents (v. 28)

2. Courage comes from a conviction that suffering for Christ is actually a privilege

a. God “graces” us with the gift of persecution (v. 29)

b. The Apostles considered suffering for Jesus a privilege (Acts 5:41)

3. Courage in the midst of persecution is a sign to believers that their faith is real and a sign to persecuting unbelievers that they are fighting against God (v. 28)

C. They will need the comradery of believers

1. They are like fellow soldiers fighting together side by side (v. 27: “standing firm”)

2. They are like athletic teammates working together for a common goal (v. 27: “striving together for the faith”)

3. There’s a comradery that comes from suffering the same things (v. 30)

4. Living worthy of the gospel in the culture is not a solo project. We need each other.