

*Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

**Sermon Notes for September 8-9, 2001**

**Dale Whitehead**

**"Conducting Ourselves in a Manner Worthy of the Gospel "**

**Philippians 1:27-30**

The underlying principle of Philippians 1:27-2:18 is "Those who have embraced the gospel need to walk in a manner worthy of the gospel they have embraced."

The word "conduct" (POLITEUESTHE) derives from a Greek word (POLIS) meaning "city" or "city state." The primary meaning of this verb was "to live as a citizen, discharge one's obligation as a citizen."

The Philippians knew how to live in a manner worthy of their Roman citizenship Paul is now exhorting them to live in a manner worthy of their heavenly citizenship when he tells them to conduct themselves in a manner worthy of the gospel.

The citizens of heaven should conduct themselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ by standing firm in one spirit, with one mind (Philippians 1:27-30).

The two participles that Paul uses to help explain what he means by "standing firm in one spirit and with one mind" are striving and alarmed.

The word translated strive (SUNATHLEO) means "to contend, struggle along with." The word does not emphasize an individual struggle but rather a collective struggle.

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Striving together for the faith of the gospel means that we are striving together to advance the gospel.

The church was not designed so that only a few gifted people would have the responsibility of advancing the gospel (Acts 8:1-4).

If our church can stand firm in prayerfully seeking to advance the gospel we can with a clear conscience declare that we have taken a major step forward in conducting ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.