

12. United we stand

Philippians 2:1-4

- The church is God's family & The church is full of sinful people
- Therefore unity amongst Christians is both beautiful and essential

1. The Threat: We seek our own Enriching

• Why do people fight? Paul isn't talking about issues of truth

a) We resent others 'riches'

- "Selfish ambition" we want what someone else has
- \circ Inclined to squabble because others have got their way
- b) We want our own glory
- "vain conceit" = "groundless glory"
- \circ $\;$ Thinking we are better, wanting things to revolve around us
- Question for friction: Do they really owe me what I think they owe?
- Question for friction: Has my quest for glory taken a knock?

2. The Solution: We are enriched by Christ

- Instead of seeking our status/riches/glory from other humans we are to realise what we have got through Jesus (v1)
 - a) United to Christ
 - \circ $\,$ On the winning side, accepted, righteous, for given, secure
 - \circ $\;$ Grasp this, and worry less about being successful in this world

b) Loved by God

- From before time, in spite of my sins, forever
- o Grasp this, and stop trying to feel good at others expense
- c) Fellowship with the Holy Spirit
- The Holy Spirit improving me, making me more Christlike
- d) God's tenderness and compassion
- \circ ~ Sometimes we just want someone to care He does

3. The Outworking: We are to enrich others

- Since we have constant supplies of riches, we can keep enriching others
 - a) A loving unity of purpose v2
 - \circ "like minded" not clones, but with the same goals/purpose
 - \circ "the same love" same as God's love for them, but for each other
 - b) Humility of opinion v3b
 - \circ $\;$ Others are worthy of your serving, since Christ died for them
 - c) Service of others v4
 - \circ $\;$ Looking at others needs, what is best for them, for everybody



Oct 11th - Faughan 8.15pm; Oct 18th - Bready 8.15pm.

getting to know the wider church

Congregation:FaughanPresbytery:WesternLocation:Drumahoe, outside DerryPastor:Steven Robinson, married to Zita, 3 sons:
Daniel (10), Adam (8) and Mark (5)



Prayer points:

- Youth club. Pray that more people from the congregation would be willing to help. Pray that young people would put their trust in Jesus Christ.
- Monthly door-to-door work. Pray that those spoken to will become Christians.
- 6 Chinese people at morning services. Pray that they would grow in their understanding of English and understand the gospel as they hear it preached.
- Pray for the outreach work in Derry. Pray for the upcoming leaflet distribution and meetings. Pray that a church will be established there.

Sunday 18th - Phillippians 2:5-11 Opening Psalm: 106:17-21

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