



**Life Group Discussion Guide  
Mission & Vision**

**Standing Together in our Mission & Vision – Philippians 4:1-3**

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Main thought:

In order to move forward as a church in a way that makes a difference in the world for Christ, we need to stand together in unity on our mission and vision.

Principles:

- Unity is mission critical
- It feels impossible to live in unity with someone you disagree with
- Keys to standing together in our Mission & Vision
  1. To stand together in unity we need a common denominator (v.1)
  2. To stand together in unity we need an uncommon mindset (v.2)
  3. To stand together in unity we need to focus on the mission (v.3)

Welcome and Fellowship Time (suggested time 10 min)

Open in Prayer

Discussion Starter (suggested sharing time 5-10 min)

- Share a time when you had a disagreement with someone that you were able to resolve. What helped you resolve the situation?

Week in Review (suggested sharing time 5-10 min)

- How have you sought to grow in all three aspects of spiritual maturity; Biblical Knowledge, Spiritual Intimacy, Holy Obedience?

Sermon Review (suggested time 15 min)

Review the passages from Sunday's message and discuss the following questions.

- What stood out to you from this message?
  
- It could be very easy to skip over verse 1 in Philippians chapter 4 and jump to the conflict in verses 2 and 3, but take a moment to read this verse and talk about what this verse tells us about Paul, his heart for the church and the point of his encouragement?
  
- Paul is pleading with two ladies in the church to be unified. Why is it important to note the absence in verse 2 of Paul's declaration of who is right and who is wrong?



- What does Paul tell them to do in verse 2? (*to have the same mind in the Lord*)
  - What does Philippians 2:5-8 teach us about the mindset of Christ?
  - Why is this an uncommon mindset?
- In verse 3 Paul points out the positive contribution of these women who are in conflict. Why is this important? How can we learn from this when we talk about Christians we're in conflict with?
- In verse 3 Paul reminds the believers that their names are written in the book of life. Why is this significant when we think about present conflicts and division in the church and world?

#### Digging Deeper (suggested time 15 min)

Read John 17:9-11, and John 17:20-21 and discuss the following questions.

- Why does Jesus pray that the disciples, as well as the believers who come after them, be one?
- What are things that challenged the unity of the early Christians and early Church?
- What are things that challenge the unity of Christians and the Church today?
- What does the message and model of Jesus in John 17 teach us about how to respond to today's challenges?

#### Application (suggested time 10 minutes)

- Why is standing together in unity mission critical?
- What is something you can apply from Philippians 4:1-3 when it comes to your relationships with Christians you don't agree with?
- Jesus chose to sacrifice His life to forgive people in conflict with God and with each other. Why is this so significant for us to remember? How is Christ's willingness to forgive such an important example for us in our relationships?

Spend time gathering prayer requests, praying for each other & praying for application of the study in the lives of the group members. (Suggested time 20 minutes)