

WORTHY CONDUCT

Philippians 1:27-28

God provides guidelines for His expectations
- Might each of us seek to make His goals our objective for 2020

I. BE MINDFUL: God commands worthy conduct

A. RECOGNIZEABLE CHRISTIANITY IS REQUIRED

1. "Conduct yourselves" is a command
2. The concept behind the command is that each of us has a responsibility that requires us to personally live and act in a way that is recognized as Christianity

B. HONORING THE GOSPEL IS NECESSARY

1. We are to live like the gospel of Jesus has affected and infected us - See Eph. 4:1
2. Living in a manner that does honor to the good news of Jesus
- See Phil. 1:9-11, 2:14-16 and 4:4-9
3. We should demonstrate a lifestyle that does not distract from the gospel or weaken its credibility
4. Our lips should speak the gospel clearly and not indicate a fuzzy "belief," sentimentality or mysticism

C. MAINTAINING SPIRITUAL INTEGRITY IS ESSENTIAL

- The gospel was under siege by legalism (see Gal. 1:6, 3:3), false teachers (Acts 20:29-30, Jude 4) libertarianism (Gal. 5:13), Judaism (the book of Hebrews) and paganism (see Acts 17:16-34)

II. BE AWARE: People are talking about you!

- It's not just your imagination... they really are!

A. PAUL WOULD HEAR THINGS

- Whether present or absent, it didn't matter

B. PEOPLE HEAR THINGS

- What are they hearing about you?

C. PASTORS HEAR THINGS

- What do you think I've heard about you?

III. **BE STEADFAST**: Resolve is important > “Standing firm”

- A. A LOYAL DETERMINATION AND DISCIPLINED DEVOTION
- B. UNMOVED BY CONTEMPORARY CULTURE
- C. STANDING AMID OPPOSITION
- D. TENACIOUSLY DEFENDING ... REFUSING TO RETREAT - See Eph. 6:10-18

IV. **BE PASSIONATE**: The gospel is essential

- A. THE OBJECT: “Striving together”
 - Toiling side by side - See I Cor. 3:9
- B. THE SUBJECT: The faith of the gospel
 1. We must be passionate about the truths of salvation by faith alone
 2. Willing to compassionately but honestly confront the sinful with their sin and Christ’s salvation
 3. We cannot be “worthy conduct” Christians if we do not share our faith with others

V. **BE UNITED**: Cooperation is expected

- A. THE TERMS: “in one spirit, with one mind” - See Phil. 2:1-2
- B. THE TASK: Wholeheartedly and sacrificially sharing in an endeavor - See Acts 2:44-46

VI. **BE CONFIDENT**: Fearlessness is revealing

- A. THE REACTION OF CONFIDENCE
 1. Not alarmed by opponents
 2. Manifesting an undaunted courage that refuses to be intimidated
- B. THE REASON FOR CONFIDENCE
 1. Because we know the opponents will be destroyed - See II Thess. 1:4-9
 2. Because we know that Christians will be delivered - See II Tim. 4:6-8
- C. THE REALITY OF THIS CONFIDENCE
 1. Both destruction and deliverance come from God
 2. See Revelation 19-20 and Genesis 6-8 for examples

CONCLUSION: This year let’s seek to be honorable citizens in God’s local church community