

Philippians

DEVOTIONAL SERIES

WE ARE ONE IN THE LORD

Tuesday, May 12th, 2020

Philippians 4:2-3

"I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life."

In the first part of chapter 4 Paul wishes to spur on his brothers and sisters towards a ***spiritual shift*** in their church, in other words to a ***spiritual*** way of life. In this case, he wants them to live in unity despite opposing opinions, which existed then just as they do now. He wants them to be of ***the same*** mind and work towards ***the same*** goal, despite opposing opinions! They should all be working towards one goal, which doesn't work when people are fighting with each other. What is this big goal? To build God's Kingdom, winning people for Jesus, making His name big and giving ***Him*** the glory.

"I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche..."

When you first think of women fighting, you might not think of two women whose names mean "pleasant fragrance" and "happy results/happiness". But here we see it's not important which one of them is in the right and which is in the wrong; they're both being admonished to work towards the goal of being of ***the same*** mind... and that only works when they are "***in the Lord***".

Isn't it great that ***in Jesus*** we can always find common ground with other believers, even when we don't necessarily feel unified at the moment?

"Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women..."

Here in verse 3 Paul is also writing to ***you!*** Help your brothers and sisters, for you all are in this fight for unity together! And you all are ***one*** in the faith. All your names are in the book of life ***together!***

Maybe this perspective could make reconciliation with others a little easier?

Prayer: *LORD, help me to love my brothers and sisters, having patience with them and showing understanding. Help me to always have my mind set on You. Amen.*

