



**PHILIPPIANS:
To Know Christ and Make Him Known**

**“Peace & Progress”
Philippians 3:20-4:9**

As the title of the sermon suggests, if we want to make progress in our mission to make disciples of all nations, we’re going to have to be at peace with each other about how we’re doing ministry here at UPC. There is a lost and dying world out there waiting to hear the GOOD NEWS of Jesus Christ!

We see in the text a situation where two people involved in ministry disagreed about something. Very likely, they disagreed about ministry methodology. The challenge for our Life Groups this week is to own up to the fact that we will hit points of disagreement from time to time as we work to complete the Great Commission.

It’s going to take the power of the Holy Spirit within us and the power of the Gospel working on our hearts in order to weather such storms. God is faithful; He will direct our steps.



KNOWING GOD

Read Philippians 3:20-4:9. This text shows us that disagreements about how to do ministry have always existed. What is (actually) comforting about this fact? What does this tell us about the nature of how things will be until Jesus returns? What does this say about our need for Jesus?

Paul referred to believers as citizens of heaven (3:20). In what ways might our being “American” have a negative affect on our view of how ministry should be done?

How might your view of ministry be different if you built it solely on Scripture? Can you think of some “American” ideas that aren’t really Biblical?



GROWING TOGETHER

In this week’s passage, we see that the only way we will agree with each other is by looking to Jesus and His Word. In what ways are you seeking to know Jesus better?

Do you feel stressed when you think about things changing, or when you think about things staying the same? How does this passage instruct us when we are stressed about ministry methods?



SERVING OTHERS

Are you serving people in Jesus' Name? At church? At work? At school? Many of you are serving in ways UPC's leaders are not aware of. Tell us! We want to celebrate all the ways God is using our people to glorify Himself in the world. If you're with a group, discuss ways you server, or ways you'd like to serve.

Have you been hesitant to serve because you're not in complete agreement with how things are done? How does our text instruct you to proceed, so that you can serve?



IN YOUR FAMILY...

The focused principle (ministry disagreements must be taken to the cross) of today's text, lends itself to a general principle: any disagreements between Christians need to be taken to the cross. In what ways can you model this for your children? Remember, more is caught than taught!

SERMON NOTES