

# The Joy of Unity

## Philippians 4:1-5

### LG Questions for 11/23/08

#### **Getting Started:**

As Christians we are constantly tempted to assert 'our view' of the way things should be (Pride). Describe a time when you knew (Pride) you were right and asserted yourself only to discover later your stance was at the expense of the greater need...unity.

#### **Getting into the Bible**

2) Read Philippians 4:1. Paul makes some encouraging assertions to the church in verse one. What do you suppose he meant when he said, "whom I love and long for?" How are we as Christians to stand in unity according to Paul? Refer to Philippians 3:20-21. How does this encouragement from Paul challenge your behavior at FBC?

3) Read Philippians 4:2. Why did Paul plead with Euodia and Syntyche? Refer to Philippians 2:2 for your answer. Why is the need for unity of heart within the church family so important to Jesus? Rate on a scale of 1 to 10 where you think FBC is on the 'Like Minded' or 'One Heart' scale.

4) Read Philippians 4:3. How had Euodia and Syntyche helped Paul in the past? What was Paul's relationship with Clement? How could Paul count on his "Loyal yokefellow"? NOTE: **Yokefellow** (verse 3) could have been a name (Syzygus) or a term to describe one of the Philippians. It is possible that someone took the name Syzygus at baptism, a Christian name to replace his pagan one and to symbolize his new birth.

5) Read Philippians 4:4. What did Paul encourage us to do? How has the theme of joy, especially in suffering, encouraged you in this book? Read Philippians 4:5. How did Paul encourage his readers to treat others? In question 3 you rated the church on unity. Now rate how you personally do with respect to verse 5. Use this as your prayer time and pray for each other when done sharing.