

Discussion Guide for Philippians 1:21-30: Part 2

1. Read Philippians 1:27-30 and then briefly review the sermon outline. The target time is five minutes.

What parts of Sunday's lesson did you find helpful, enlightening, unclear or troubling?

2. Truth for Today: God is working in and through us to develop our church into a fearless gospel army. If we are going to be skillful spiritual Spartans guarding and advancing the truth, we must be a unified team composed of mature spiritual Spartans.

Read Ephesians 4:4-13

-Who are the spiritual Spartan upper brass describes in vs.11-12?

-Where do we find our marching orders from the apostles and prophets?

-Who are the Shepard-teachers (aka Elders) at QBC?

-Who is the "He" who enlisted and deployed leaders to serve the church in vs.9-11?

-How does the "gift from Christ" terminology in v.8 and v.11 make you feel about the Scriptures and your church leaders?

-How have your church leaders been a blessing to you personally?

-What is the primary function of church leaders in developing a spiritual Spartan army in vs.12-14?

-What are your church leaders doing well developing your growth and maturity?

-Where do your leaders need to be more effective?

-What can you personally do to help your leaders be more successful in facilitating your growth and maturity?

Read Ephesians 4:14-16

-What will good church leaders train the congregation to do in v.14?

-How specifically do our leader do this at QBC?

-What are some ways that they can be more effective?

-What are some dangerous sources of deceitful doctrines in our culture?

-How can we invite and employ the protective ministry of our leaders in our culture where false teacher abound?

-What will good church leaders train the congregation to do in v.15-16?

-What does v.15 reveal about Christ's strategy for "church growth"?

-What is the activity of mutual ministry described in v.15?

-What is the attitude of mutual ministry described in v.15?

-What is the danger of truth without love?

-What is the danger of love without truth?

-How have you experienced the power of someone speaking hard truths with clear love?

Read 4:15-16 one more time

-What is the beautiful result when leaders faithfully equip the group and then the group effectively carries out this mutual ministry?