**Welcome to Philippians: Serving & Suffering Joyfully**

**Session 6, Part 1: How to Be Tender & Tough**

**Philippians 1:27-2:4**

**Verse 27: “Only”**

* Gospel:
	+ love
	+ justice
	+ humility
	+ liberty

***Believers are making a statement not only with our lips but also with our lives!***

**Tough: Withstanding External Pressure (1:27b-30)**

**Teamwork (1:27b)**

* “Stand firm in one spirit”
	+ soldiers
* “Work side by side”
	+ athletes

***Remember: we’re in a battle with each other, not against each other (Philippians 4:2-3)!***

**Purpose & Fearlessness (1:27c-28a)**

* positive
* negative

***Expect Adversaries & Opposition (1 Corinthians 16:8-9)***

**Sign (1:28b)**

* two-way sign:
	+ confrontation
	+ confirmation

***“Thumbs down” to those who persecute; “Thumbs up” to those who persevere!***

**Suffering (1:29-30)**

* gift?
	+ sense of assurance you belong to Christ
	+ brings you closer to Christ
	+ equips you to rejoice in suffering

***Suffering for Christ’s sake is as much a gift from God as salvation is!***