



**Progress and
Joy in the faith**

**Philippians
1:12–30**

Being a Christ-like community



Phil.

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21-25

21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

22 If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labour for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know!

23 I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far;

24 but it is more necessary **for you** that I remain in the body.

25 Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you **for your progress and joy** in the faith...

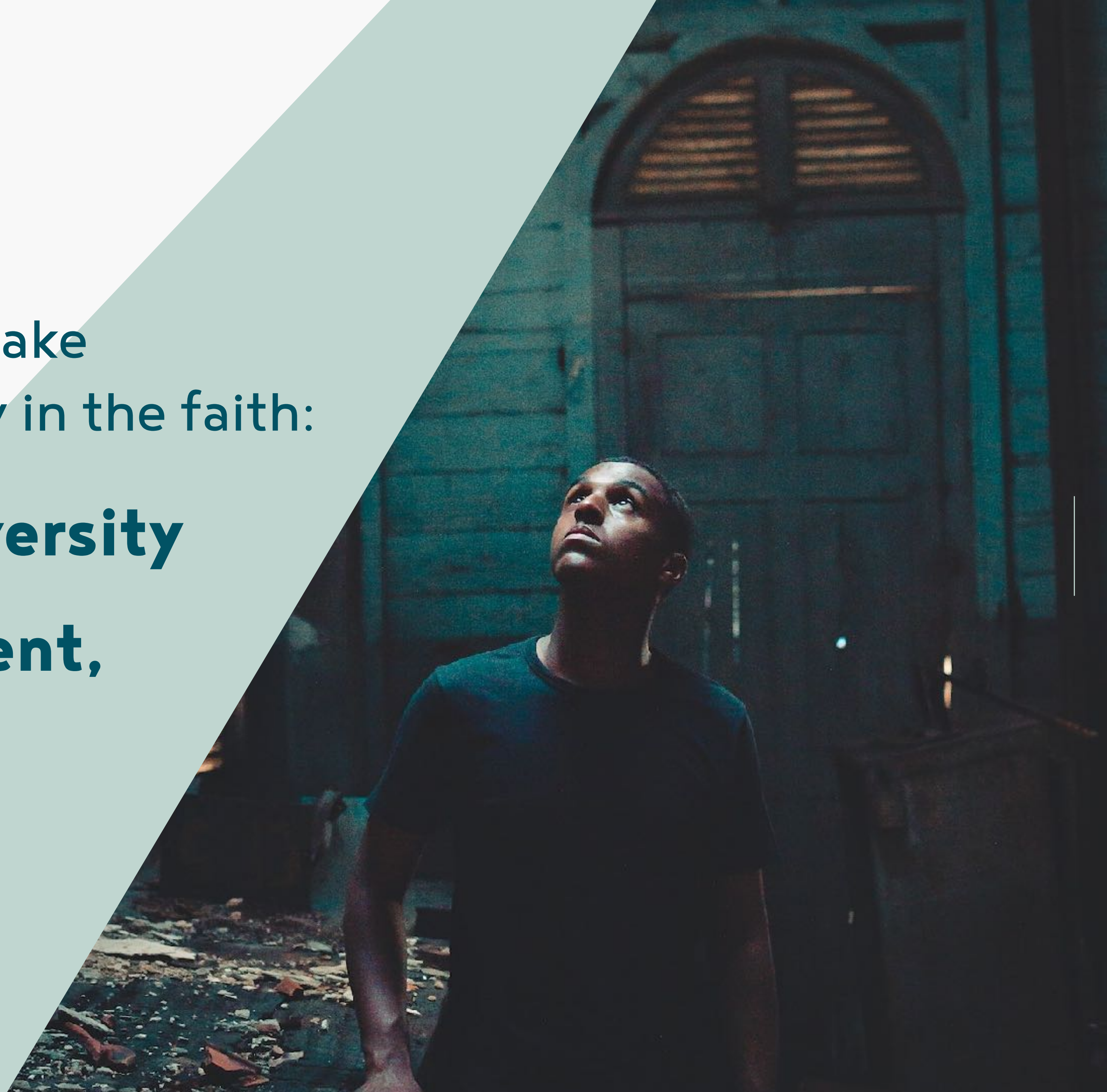


In a Christ-like community each member helps others to make progress and have joy in the faith.



How to help each other make
progress & experience joy in the faith:

**Understand that adversity
can bring advancement,
v12-14**





Phil.

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12-13

12 Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel.

13 As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ.



Phil.

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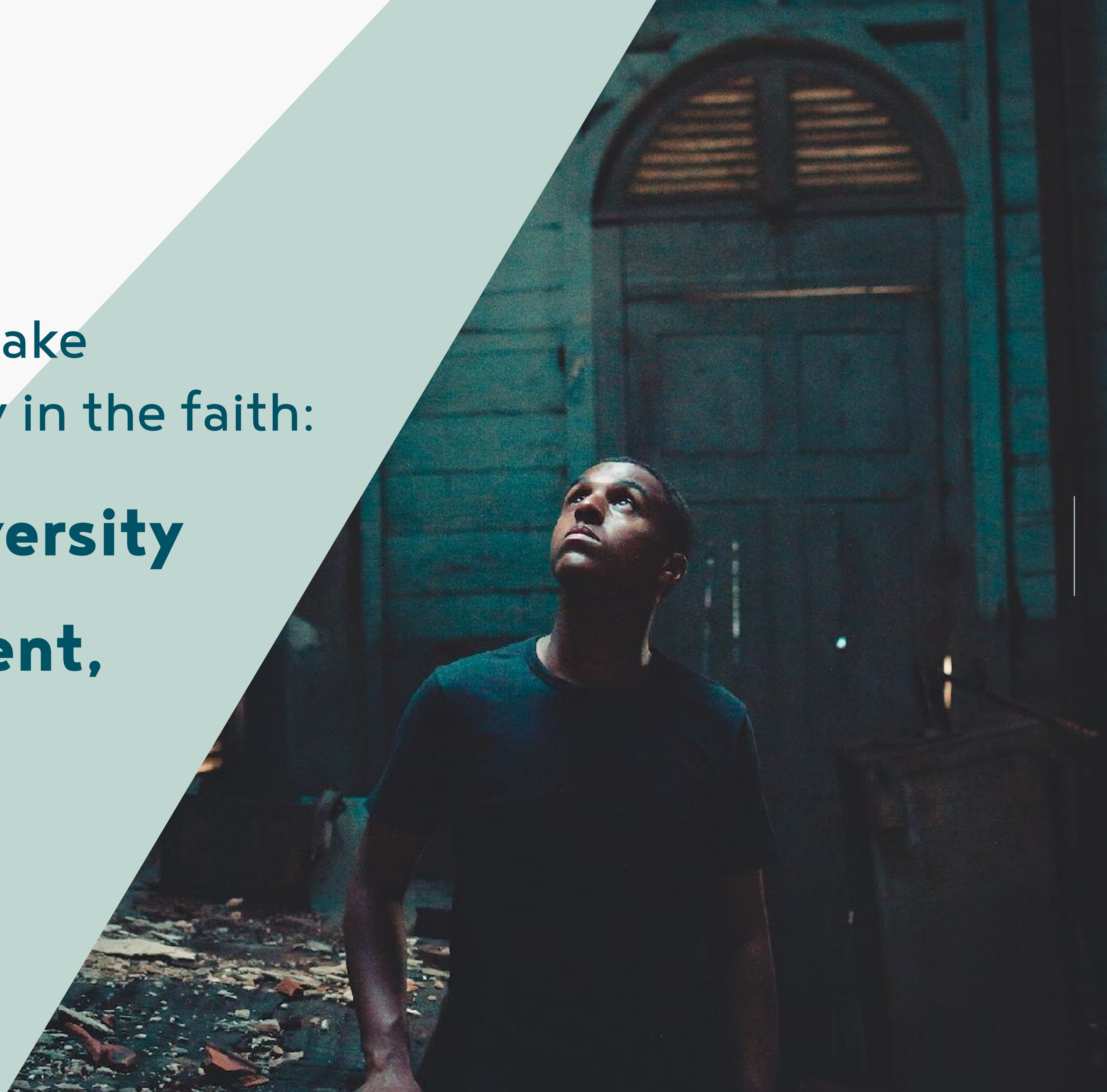
14

14 And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.

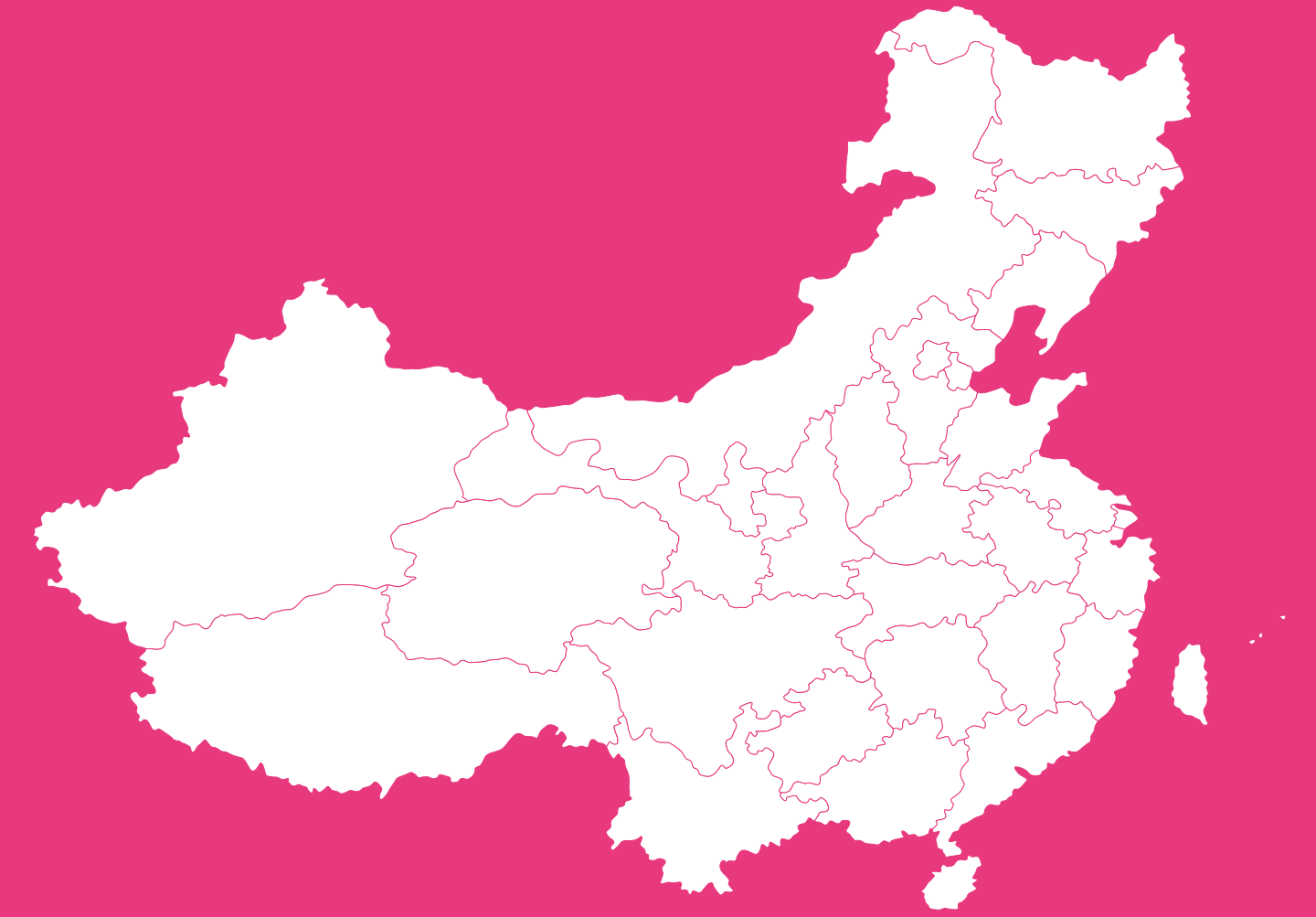


How to help each other make
progress & experience joy in the faith:

**Understand that adversity
can bring advancement,
v12-14**



Real life example: CHINA

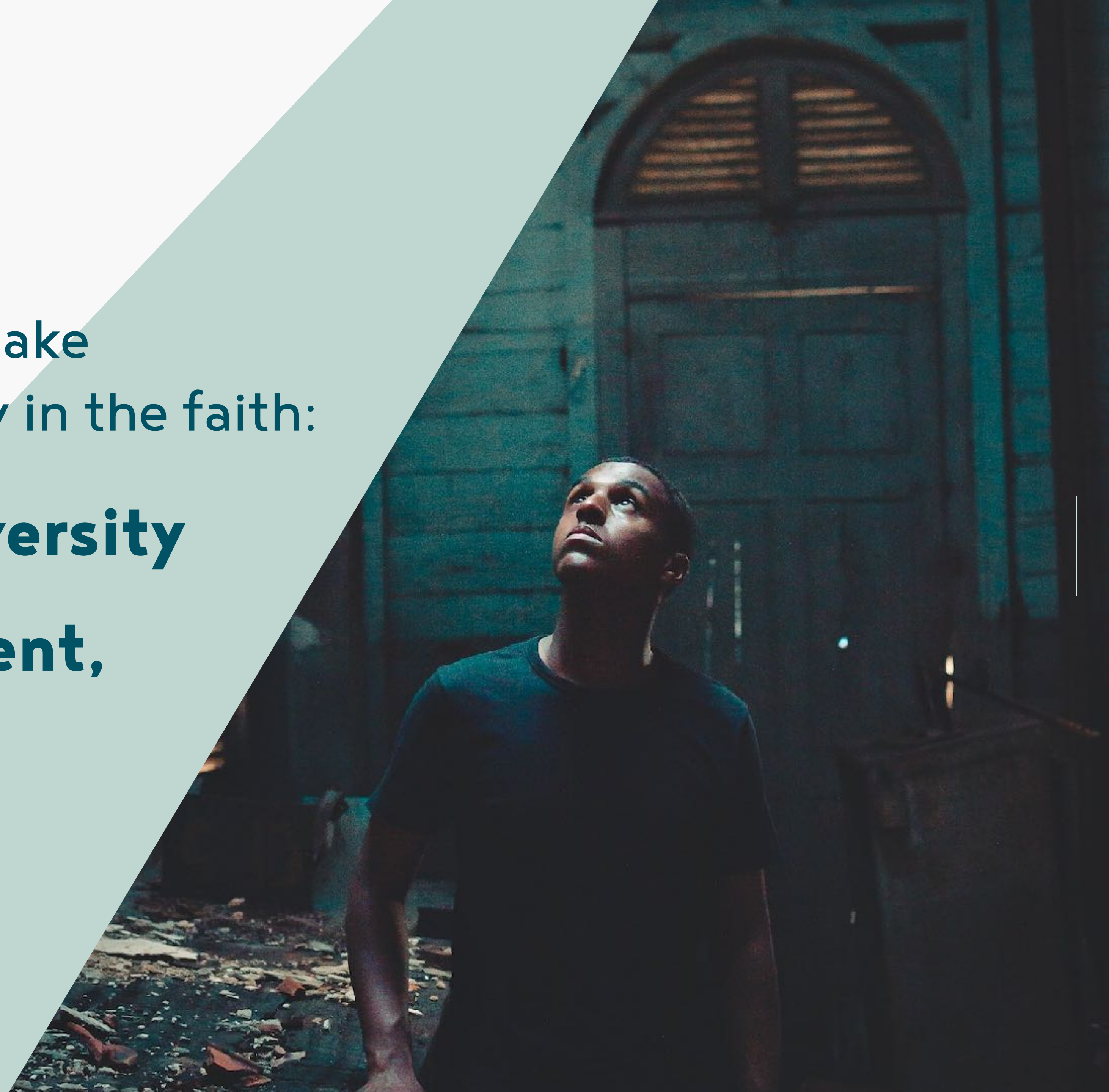


Understand that
adversity can bring
advancement, v12-14



How to help each other make
progress & experience joy in the faith:

**Understand that adversity
can bring advancement,
v12-14**





How to help each other make
progress & experience joy in the faith:

**Rejoice that Jesus is being
proclaimed,
v15-18a**





Phil.

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15-17

15 It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill.

16 The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defence of the gospel.

17 The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains.



Phil.

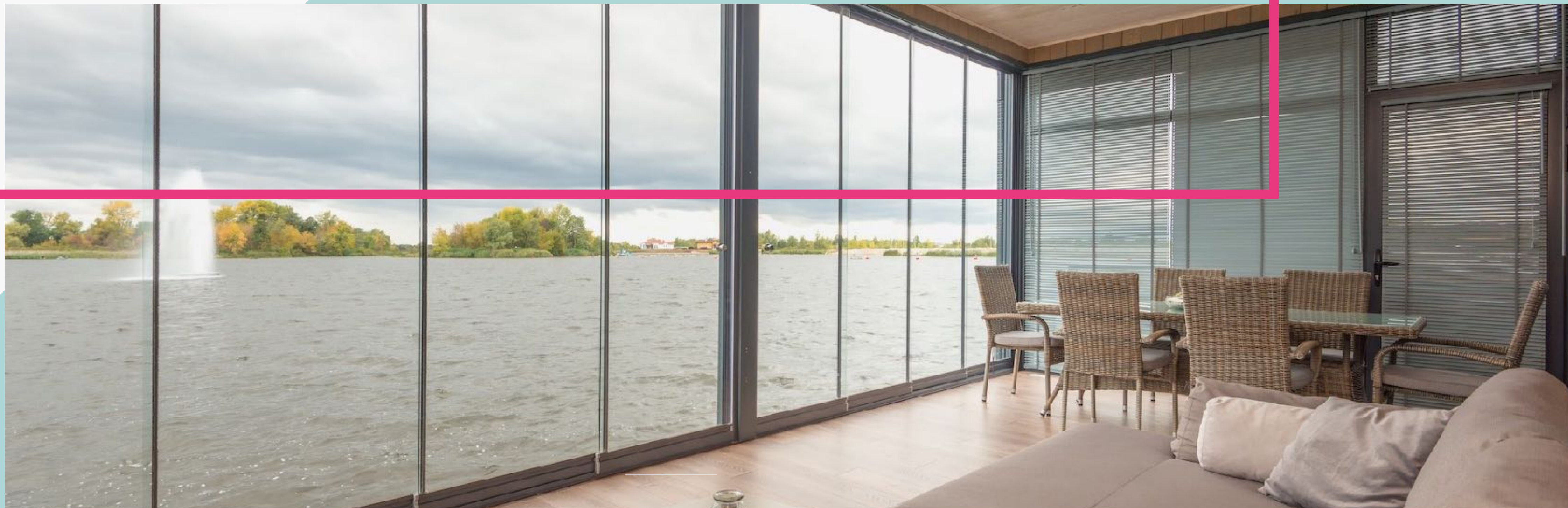
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18

18 But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice.



What are your aspirations?



A red sports car is parked on a city street. The background features a building with a blue tint and large windows reflecting the street scene. The car's rear is visible, showing its sleek design and taillights.

What do you rejoice in **most?**





How to help each other make
progress & experience joy in the faith:

**Rejoice that Jesus is being
proclaimed,
v15-18a**





How to help each other make
progress & experience joy in the faith:

**As you suffer and struggle
stand firm and strive
together,
v27-30**





Phil.

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29

29 For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him,



How can suffering
for being a Christian
be a gift from God?

**Because it's for
God's Glory and
Our Good.**





Acts

14

21-22

21 They preached the gospel in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, **22** strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. 'We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,' they said.



“There is no education like adversity.”

“Other people are going to find healing in your wounds. Your greatest life messages and your most effective ministry will come out of your deepest hurts.”





Phil.

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27b–

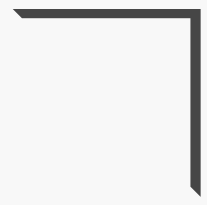
28a

27b ...stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together [συναθλέω] as one for the faith of the gospel

28a without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you.”

A photograph of three young women sitting in a circle on the ground outdoors. They are holding hands in a supportive gesture. The woman on the left is wearing a red and white striped shirt and blue jeans. The woman in the middle is wearing a grey knit top and blue jeans. The woman on the right is wearing a light blue top and blue jeans with a tear at the knee. The background is a mix of orange and white geometric shapes.

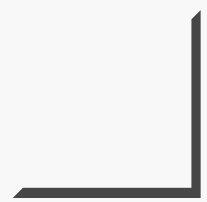
**WE DON'T HAVE
TO STRUGGLE ALONE**



Phil.

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28



28 [stand firm] without being
frightened in any way by those who
oppose you.





How to help each other make
progress & experience joy in the faith:

**As you suffer and struggle
stand firm and strive
together,
v27-30**





► **Time to reflect:**

How can I help others progress in their faith?

► **Parents:**

How will you help your children stand firm if they are mocked for the gospel?