

### UNIFY.

#### How we stand firm

- Speak words of life – 4:1 *Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for my joy, and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.*
- Agree to assume the best about one another – 4:2 *I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord.*
- Remember we're on the same team – 4:3a *Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.*

“Battered emotions can produce a crop of doubts just as devastating as the militant atheists' toughest questions.”<sup>1</sup> – Os Guinness, *God in the Dark*

“A preoccupation with doubt is just as pointless as a preoccupation death: it doesn't change the situation, and it converts your attention from the opportunities that the life of faith has to offer.”<sup>2</sup> – Alister McGrath, *Doubting: Growing Through the Uncertainties of Faith*

“We have an enemy in coronavirus that is faceless, that is raceless, sexless, non-denominational, and bipartisan, and it's an enemy that we all agree we want to beat, and we're gonna beat.” – Matthew McConaughey<sup>3</sup>

1 Corinthians 16:13

*Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.*

- Remember your hope – 4:3b *whose names are in the book of life.*

“Now faith, in the sense of which I am using the word, is the art of holding onto things your reason has once accepted, in spite of our change of moods.”<sup>4</sup> – C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

<sup>1</sup> Os Guinness, *God in the Dark: The Assurance of Faith Beyond a Shadow of a Doubt* (Wheaton: Crossway, 1996), 130.

<sup>2</sup> Alister McGrath, *Doubting: Growing Through the Uncertainties of Faith* (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2006), 125.

<sup>3</sup> Claudia Willen, “Matthew McConaughey shares a video message with fans about the coronavirus and economic recession,” *Insider*, March 18, 2020, <https://www.insider.com/matthew-mcconaughey-coronavirus-video-message-twitter-2020-3>.

<sup>4</sup> C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity* (San Francisco: HarperOne, 1952, 2001), 140.