

creekroad  
**MEDIA**



**SAMPLE**



**COUNTER  
CULTURE  
ARMY**

**NAME**

**GROWTH GROUP**

1. SAVED TO SERVE
2. UNSTOPPABLE VICTORY
3. PERMANENT CITIZENS
4. STAND UNITED
5. THE LOWEST RANK
6. FELLOW SOLDIERS
7. PRISONERS OF WAR
8. THE LAST POST
9. CIVIL WAR
10. PEACE KEEPING

SAMPLE

# COUNTER CULTURE ARMY

noun: counter-culture

a way of life and set of attitudes opposed to or different to the current culture.

We live in a world where culture defines our identity. We live in a world where we are told what to think and do. But the Bible calls us to live not by the ways of the world, but to follow Jesus. He lived a life that was counter cultural. He wasn't caught up in the new crazes or fleeting ideas, but he came to show people he was the one true God.

In the book of Philippians, Paul uses a lot of army language because Phillipi was a city where a large amount of retired centurions were settled. This language talks about unity, working together and getting on the front foot with telling people about Jesus. This book is highly relevant to us today as we think about ways in which we can tell people about Jesus together.

As a church, we try hard to spread the news of Jesus in a lost world but we can't do it by ourselves... and we can't do it getting caught up in crazes or ideas. We need to work together to understand more about Jesus and how we can tell more people about what he has done for us. #unitedforjesus #everythingforjesus

So as we march forward this term, remember that we are called to be God's people, serving him in unity together so that more and more people may come to know his amazing love.

# HOW THIS BOOKLET WORKS

The Bible is a book that is filled with a richness what we don't always see. One of the aims this term is to take a passage each week and really try and read it for ourselves, really try to slow down and understand the text so that we can listen more closely to what God has to say to us.

Here is how it works.

1. Read the passage together.

*Philippians 2:1-3*

*Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.*

2. Highlight, underline and circle the sections as per each study.

3. Share the reasons for your answers.

4. Read the Acts narrative that relates to the passage.

5. Pray about what you have learnt.

We hope that this new structure for this book will help you understand the passage more as we continue to meet together.

Creek Road Youth



**SAMPLE**

# SERIES SONG

## Verse 1

Gathered as one we stand  
United by Christ, our Lord  
Once people with different minds  
Now children of God  
With the mind of Christ  
Our humble Saviour  
Who gave his life  
Made himself nothing

## Verse 2

Together we stand in Christ  
Firm in the grip of grace  
Once people who gave no light  
Now shining like stars  
With the light of Christ  
Our glorious Saviour  
Who gave his life  
To conquer darkness

## Verse 3

Together as one we strive  
Struggling for Christ, our Lord  
Serving him side by side  
Suffring with joy  
Pressing on  
With fear and trembling  
To live is Christ  
To die is glory

## Chorus 1

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
The King who reigns on high  
Is Servant of us all  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Citizens of heav'n  
Come bow before the Son  
The One who made us one

SAMPLE

# SONG EXPLANATION

The church is a diverse bunch of people. We come from all sorts of backgrounds. Frankly, churches are full of people who are very different to one another. It's not uncommon for people to show up to church, take a look around, and feel like this isn't really the place for them. Like they don't fit in. Like there's no one else like them here; or at least, not enough similarly-minded people to bother sticking around.

Worse than that, churches are often full of people who fight with one another. Maybe not with fists. But often with words. And most often with thoughts – mental arguments; philosophical disagreements, even just feeling generally annoyed at the way things are. Creek Road is no exception. What would it take to unite the church? What would it take to unite Creek Road?

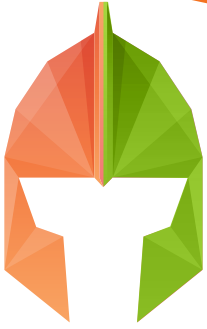
The good news is that Jesus is the one who unites his people. Jesus is the one who unites his church. Jesus is the one who unites Creek Road. And in fact, whether we realise it or not, he's already done it by his blood shed on the cross. The gospel of Christ unites us as one. Our responsibility is to live lives worthy of the gospel, in light of what Christ has already done for us, and together to work out our salvation with fear and trembling.

It's in that sense that the church is a bit like an army. We're a diverse bunch of people, gathered together by the victory of our King, serving together side by side for the cause of the gospel. There is no place for turf wars in the army; and there is no place for them in the church. Jesus by his sacrificial death has already made us one – even a people as diverse as us, many who might even feel like there is no place for them. Jesus has made us one. So now we need to work out that unity in the way we live and relate to one another.

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel. (Philippians 1:27)

The One Who Made Us One was written by Trevor Hodge, Peter Yock & Steve Cree as the theme song for Creek Road's Term 4 2015 series, 'Counter Culture Army: A Call to Arms from Philippians'. You can find the song on our website.

Peter Yock - Music Pastor



# WEEK ONE SAVED TO SERVE

KICK  
OFF

Watch 'Cruise Ship vs Battleship' by IgniterMedia on YouTube.

BIG  
IDEA  
KEY  
VERSE

God has changed the world through Jesus by gathering the church as his army of soldier citizens who serve him by advancing his counter-culture.

I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus - Philippians 1:4-6

Philippians 1:1-11

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons[a]:

2 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, 6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

7 It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. 8 God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. 9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, 10 so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

**UNDERLINE - WHAT PAUL IS CALLING THE PHILIPPIANS TO DO.**

**HIGHLIGHT - THE REASONS FOR THIS.**

**CIRCLE - ANYTHING YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.**



# CALL TO ARMS

Read about the start of the Philippian church in Acts 16:16-34

What is counter-cultural about how Paul & Silas behaved in prison?

In what counter-cultural ways does God start building his church in Philippi?

What do you think about the way that Paul & Silas served Jesus?

How much do you consider yourself a partner in the gospel like them?

How are you already a soldier serving in Jesus' counter-cultural army?

How can you grow as a soldier serving in Jesus' counter-cultural army?

# PRAYER

How can you praise God this week?

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SAMPLE

