



Christ is Life: To Live is Christ

Philippians 1:19-26

Read Philippians 1:19-26 together:

"For I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰ as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴ But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵ Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶ so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again."

- ? What is happening in Paul's life that would cause him to think in terms of life and death (Philippians 1:12-13)?
- ? What circumstances in your life make you think of life and death?
- ? What words in verses 19-20 show the posture of Paul's heart?

To Live is Christ

1. Clarity for the journey (see verse 21)

- ? What is Paul's purpose?
- ? Think about last week. What evidence in your life shows that you do or do not see this as the purpose for your life?

2. Confidence in the destination (see verses 21-23)

- ? How many euphemisms for death can you come up with? What's the purpose of these euphemisms?
- ? How does truly living for Christ transform your view of death?

? Think about this coming week. How would remembering your destination change the way you live this week?

3. Paul's decision (see verses 24-26)

? What does Paul choose? Why?

? Who in your life spurs you on toward progress (sanctification) and joyful faith?

? Who in your life could you encourage toward progress and joyful faith this week?