

When Christ is Your Life

Philippians 1:21

INTRODUCTION:

- A. What drives you in life? What causes you to do the very things that you do? (Ex: Michael Jordan)
- B. What we see as important has become more obvious the last few weeks.
- C. Paul was incredibly open and honest about his life and what drove him to live the way he did.

IS CHRIST YOUR LIFE?

- A. Paul's motto was to know Christ Jesus and live for Him (Phil. 1:21; 3:7-11).
- B. Sum up your life – For me to live is _____? (Ex: money, power, family, popularity, accolades)
- C. Too many Christians spend too much of their lives living for the wrong things (1 Jn. 2:15-17).

WHEN CHRIST IS YOUR LIFE YOU ARE NOT AFRAID TO TALK ABOUT HIM

- A. Paul's time was spent preaching Christ.
 - 1. After his baptism, the first thing Paul did was preach Jesus (Acts 9:18-21).
 - 2. He was willing to preach Christ even if that meant death (Acts 20:24; 21:10-14).
- B. The Gospel did not stop spreading because Paul was in prison; it advanced (Phil. 1:12-14, 4:22).
- C. We should be talking about Jesus more than we talk about our favorite books or television shows.

WHEN CHRIST IS YOUR LIFE YOU MAKE IT YOUR AIM TO MAGNIFY HIM

- A. Paul's actions were about magnifying Christ.
 - 1. He wanted Christ to be honored in his body, whether by life or by death (Phil. 1:20).
 - 2. Paul was not ashamed because of Christ (Phil. 1:20; Mk. 8:38, I Pet. 4:16).
- B. When a person is in Christ, his life is supposed to be new (2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 2:20, Col. 3:4).
- C. Christians may not openly deny Jesus with their words, but we deny Him when we are too embarrassed to magnify Him in our lives.

WHEN CHRIST IS YOUR LIFE YOU UNDERSTAND DEATH IS NOT YOUR ENEMY

- A. Paul's mind was set on living with Christ (Phil. 1:21-23).
 - 1. The word "gain" is a monetary term that means to make a profit on an investment.
 - 2. Paul understood living for Christ meant that his death would be a gain (2 Tim. 4:6-8).
- B. How we view death will affect how we live life.
- C. For the Christian, whether we continue to live or whether we die, we win.

CONCLUSION:

- A. Paul's life was about Jesus and only Jesus. This is evident from the life he chose to live.
- B. What do you consider to be most important in your life?
- C. The lives we choose to live reveal what is most important in our lives.