

TO LIVE IS CHRIST
Philippians 1:18b-26

Theme: Paul contemplates his future as he faces the prospect of execution while in prison.

1. THE PHILIPPIANS' PRAYERS AND SPIRITUAL SUPPORT (V19-20)

Paul knew that the Philippians were praying for him.

Paul knew that their prayers resulted in his experiencing an additional measure of the Holy Spirit.

2. THE CHOICE PAUL HAD TO MAKE (V21-26)

Christ was the SOURCE of his life.

"for me to live is Christ" (v21a)

Christ was the GOAL of his life.

"and to die is gain" (v21b)

The *"far better"* for himself vs. that which was *"more necessary"* for others.

(V23-24)

Paul's ultimate choice and reasons. (v25-26)

HOME BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS

1. How did the apostle Paul “know” that the Philippians were praying for him?
(v19)
2. What six benefits did Paul receive by the Holy Spirit as a result of their prayers? (All in v20)
3. Does an individual naturally have God’s life in them? (Eph 2:1) Describe spiritual regeneration. (Eph 2:5) What happened to our old life? (Rom 6:6)
4. These several verses describe an exchanged life. (Rom 6:11; Col 3:1-4; Gal 2:20) Discuss amongst yourselves what this means.
5. V21 is the key verse in Paul’s letter. What does it mean to “*live is Christ*”? And what does it mean “*to die is gain*”? Explain how this is lived out practically in a believer’s life.
6. Describe the ‘tug of war’ that was taking place inside Paul’s heart. (v22-24) What was the easier decision for Paul to make? What decision did he make? Why? (v25-26)