

Bible Reading: **Philippians 1:19-30**

Devotional Thought:

To live is Christ, and to die is gain. What do we have to lose as Christians? Nothing in this world matters except what we are doing to point others to Christ. This world is not our home. This life is not our end. Heaven awaits, and in the meantime we have work to do here.

May we never settle for loving this world and all that it has to offer. We are here for a purpose: to glorify God in the here and now.

What you are going through is not a mistake. There is a greater purpose in all our sorrows and celebrations. Because of Paul's chains, he was able to reach a group of soldiers he otherwise would not have been able to reach.

When we live for Christ, we realize we have gained heaven. Paul was able to rejoice despite his circumstances because his joy was not found in the present, but in what was to come.

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Philippians 1:21, 27

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Bible Reading: Philippians 1:1-18

Questions for Reflection:

Verse 6 says that Jesus will bring the good work in us to completion. What does this mean?

Why is it important to couple love with knowledge and discernment (vs. 9)?

How did God turn Paul's imprisonment and sufferings to advantage?

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Bible Reading: Philippians 1:19-30

Questions for Reflection:

What advantage is Paul referring to when he says, "to live in Christ"? What advantages might Paul be thinking of when he says, "to die is to gain"?

Paul talks about not being frightened by our opponents. What might we be frightened of and how do we stand firm with courage?

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