



Riverstone
BAPTIST CHURCH

Sermon Based Questions

Date- Sunday 21st October 2018

Series- Christ Centered Community Prt 2

To live is Christ

20 I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. 21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

1. To live is Christ (Philippians 1:18-26)

2. Conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of Christ. (1:27-30)

A. Examining the texts.

1. Read Philippians 1:18b-26. What does Paul rejoice in here? What do you think is surprising in Paul's perception of deliverance? What does he think it is- how does this challenge our perception of deliverance and "things working out for us?" Read Job 13:14-16 and think about how Paul might have aligned himself with Job?
2. Read Philippians 1:18-30. What does it mean that you live a life worthy of the Lord? What do you think- in terms of behaviors and actions that you find here in Philippians show that we are living as citizens of another kingdom?
3. Read Philippians 1:20-21 again. Paraphrase it in your own words. What do you think it is saying?

B. Meditation & application

4. When I read this whole chapter I was confronted with a question: how did Paul come to see his own life as "to live is Christ and to die is gain?" What do you think led him to this point? What experiences, what disciplines, what teaching, whose power?
5. Do you think that Paul is a unique case and that the way that he saw the world is unique to him and we can't pretend to emulate it or do you think it's a normative description of the kind of life that Christians are supposed to live?
6. As you look at your life now- what things do you think might look like they reveal that you live as part of an outpost of the Kingdom of God? What would it look like for you to live a life worthy of the gospel? What practices or habits might you put into place that would help embed the mark of the King on your life?
7. Unity seems to be important to Paul in this letter. Are there ways that you are standing in one Spirit with others in the work of the kingdom? What could you do to champion the cause of the kingdom by striving side by side with other believers in kingdom work?

Dear heavenly Father- Help us to see Christ like Paul saw Christ. May we become Christ obsessed. Help us to use our lives as an opportunity for fruitful kingdom labor and to be fearless in light of the fact that our God reigns in his Son- King Jesus.