

Philippians 1:12 But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things *which happened* unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel; **13** So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other *places*; **14** And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. **15** Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: **16** The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds: **17** But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel. **18** What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice. **19** For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, **20** According to my earnest expectation and *my* hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but *that* with all boldness, as always, *so* now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether *it be* by life, or by death.

21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. 22 But if I live in the flesh, this *is* the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not. **23** For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: **24** Nevertheless to abide in the flesh *is* more needful for you. **25** And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith; **26 That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ** for me by my coming to you again. **27 Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ:** that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; **28** And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God. **29** For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake; **30** Having the same conflict which ye saw in me, and now hear *to be* in me.

Eat Your Vegetables - Philippians 1:30-12

I need to accept the tough things FIRST

5. BELIEVE & SUFFER — *A cost we don't avoid* vs. 29–30

“Unto you it is given... not only to believe, but also to suffer.”

Philippians 3:10, Philippians 4:1

- ☐ I expect comfort more than cost
- ☐ I am learning to stand fast in the Lord
- ☐ I want backbone faith, not borrowed faith

☞ ☐ *What helps me stand firm when faith is tested?*

4. CONVERSATIONS WORTH THE GOSPEL — *A life that speaks* vs. 27–28

Matthew 16:24; Luke 14:27; 1 Corinthians 9:16; 2 Corinthians 4:3

- ☐ My words point people to Christ
- ☐ My life supports what I say
- ☐ I need courage to speak clearly

☞ ☐ *Are my daily conversations helping or hiding the Gospel?*

3. TO LIVE IS CHRIST & TO DIE IS GAIN — *The right perspective* vs. 21–26

Ephesians 4:11, 12; Romans 8:18

- ☐ I fear death more than disobedience
- ☐ I am willing to live for the good of others
- ☐ I want Christ magnified in my life

☞ ☐ *Where is God asking me to live more boldly for Him?*

2. THREE UNMOVABLE TRUTHS — *What keeps us steady* vs. 19–20

✓ ☐ Check what strengthens you today:

- ☐ Prayer from God's people
- ☐ Power from God's Spirit
- ☐ Purpose to glorify Christ

☞ ☐ *Which one do I need most right now?*

1. YOUR STYLE DOESN'T MATTER — *Christ is preached* vs. 12–18

- ☐ I focus on personalities
- ☐ I focus on preferences
- ☐ I rejoice that Christ is proclaimed

☞ ☐ *Am I celebrating Christ—or critiquing methods?*

Are you a Believer? Live a focus life of great worth for God. Not a Believer? A life with God makes sense everyday and for eternity. Receive Him today!

Joshua 24:15 As for me and for my house, we will serve the Lord!