

Philippians Week 6

To Die Is Gain

Memory Verse:

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 1:7

1) CATCH UP ON LIFE

This is when we update each other on the day in and day out happenings of our lives. Because God is our Father, we are family. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?

What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)? Are there any practical needs you have right now?

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

2) REVIEW THE MISSION

Through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, we have been sent as missionaries in everyday life to display God's glory and lead others to repentance and faith through belief in the gospel. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

What is one opportunity that you have in front of you for missionary effort? What kind of step can you take this week that will advance this area of your life?

3) DISCUSS AND ENGAGE

Since we follow Jesus, we seek to apply the Gospel continually to all of life. God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, to equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a Group throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25).

Imagine yourself 10 years from now. In 2034, what accomplishments from the last decade are you most proud of (or most thankful for)?

Read Philippians 1:8-26

What does "to live is Christ, and to die is gain" mean? (Use the context before and after verse 21 to correctly interpret what it means).

The way Paul views his future should be the reality for all Christians. How should this impact our approach to everything and everyone in your life (friendships, work, career, family, possessions, neighbors, etc.)?

Do your present priorities reflect this statement? If not, what must change in your life so that you can embody the truth: "to live is to Christ, and to die is gain"?

In ten years (or how many years you have left on this earth), what are some accomplishments that can embody this beautiful truth?

Time permitting, close in prayer. If you do not have a lot of time, make it a summary prayer asking God to help us believe and embrace the truth of this passage. If you have more time, invite your group to pray for this truth to apply to each of you based on what came out of your discussion. This may involve confession, thanksgiving, or prayers asking God to change us into Christians who live lives that serve Christ and long for the next life.