

Community Group Discussion Questions

“Life Verse” Philippians 1:21 Oct 28/29

Getting Started

There is battle cry within all of us that goes unheard, unsaid, and unannounced at times. However, this battle cry serves as the motivation, the cadence in our soul that keeps us focused, fixed, and faced in the right direction seeking to live a life of significance! The question is what is that motivation?

As you wake up each morning and think about your day and your reason for living, what is your battle cry?

The Apostle Paul described his battle cry like this:

- “For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain” (ESV)
- “Alive, I’m Christ’s messenger; dead, I’m his bounty. Life versus even more life! I can’t lose” (The Message)
- “For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better” (NLT)
- “To me the only important thing about living is Christ, and dying would be profit for me” (New Century Version)

Going Deeper

- I. Requires an Individual Decision: “For me”
 - A. Confronted with Truth
 - B. Called by Truth
 - C. Committed to Truth

Read Philippians 1:20. No one else can make you believe or force you to become a follower of Jesus Christ.

What characteristics do you see Paul living with here?

What would it look like for Christ to be honored in your body?

II. Reveals an Inspirational Direction: “to Live”

- A. Personal Direction: Aim > Ambition > Ability > Affinity
- B. Purposeful Direction: Affinity > Ability > Ambition > Aim

Most people live selfishly, aiming their life at what they like, but people who live with an eternal purpose direct their aim first, and then allow their affinity, ability, and ambition to serve their eternal purpose. As you look back over your life, which of these describes where you’ve been? Where are you now? What might need to change?

III. Rejoices in Irrevocable Deliverance: “is Christ”

- A. HE is the Source in my Salvation
- B. HE is the Strength in my Salvation
- C. HE is the Sustainer in my Salvation

Read Colossians 1:15-23. What do these verses tell you about Jesus Christ?

How is Christ the Source, Strength, and Sustainer of your salvation?

IV. Renews Intentional Dedication: “To die”

- A. Surrendered MY Rights:
- B. Sacrificed MY Requests:
- C. Submitted MY Reliance’s:

As Paul wrote Philippians, he was a prisoner in Rome, and facing a strong possibility of death. He realized that to keep living was to keep serving Christ and Christians, and to be put to death was nothing to fear. He could say this because he had already surrendered his life to Christ, dying to his own ambitions.

READ: Galatians 2:20, Romans 12:2, Galatians 6:14, Galatians 5:24, Luke 9:23

How can we capture that same vision and peace Paul had?

V. Radiates an Insightful Declaration: “is gain”

A. Principle of Profit

B. Perspective of Profit

READ Mark 8:36-37. Too many Christians live as if they are atheists, living as if this physical life is all there is. Paul knew better. In what ways are you trying to ‘gain the world’?

READ 2 Corinthians 5:1-9. If these verses are true (and they are), then what needs to change in how I approach life? Can I live for Christ with reckless abandon? Can I trust Him with my physical life and my eternal soul? What does He want me to start boldly doing right now?

Take Away: A life verse is more than a favorite verse; it is a foundational verse for your life causing you to build your life upon its promises.

Prayer Requests