



## Community Group Questions Apr 19, 2020

To Live Is Christ, to Die Is Gain Philippians 1:18-26

### Kicking Things Off

Checking in, how are each of you doing? Do you have a specific need?

### Getting Into It

Read Philippians 1:18-26

Why does Paul say he's rejoicing even during the difficult circumstances that he's currently in?

What do you have to rejoice about where you see God moving during this pandemic in your life and the lives of others?

Paul is hoping and expecting to be delivered from his current circumstances. He mentions the prayers of the believers in Philippi being used by God as a part of that deliverance. He says the same about the prayers of the Corinthians in 2 Cor. 1:8-11 (read that now). What does this teach us about prayer, how God uses our prayers and that they really do make a difference?

If this is true, then why, for most of us, is our prayer life pretty anemic or we struggle with spending time in solid prayer?

Why is it helpful to prayer with others?

Not everyone can do this because of work, kids, schedule, etc. But how many of you could join us at least once a week for our half hour noon time prayer gathering?

The spiritual disciplines (regular Bible reading, prayer, serving, giving, resting, etc.) don't necessarily cause growth, but prepare our hearts for growth. Which of these are going well for you right now? Which of these do you want to grow in?

Why are healthy rhythms and habit so important for Christian growth? How can God use these current circumstances we are in to help you establish or re-establish good rhythms? (Consider listening to The Fields series "Cultivating the Heart for Growth" which can be found on our website.)

Moving forward, what does Paul really mean when he says, "To live is Christ, to die is gain"?

Based on that, what does it mean for you personally to "live for Christ"? What is His calling on your life? Where are you serving Him? What is that costing you?

Being totally honest, are you more attached to this life or the life to come? Why?

### The Parting Shot

Let's spend a significant time this evening praying for each other, those that don't know Jesus yet, our country and our world and the pandemic situation to end.