



## To Live is Christ!

### 10 minutes – Greeting & Fellowship

- Light refreshments (optional)
- Welcoming and Introducing new members or visitors to the Group
- Sharing upcoming events (Conferences, Seminars, Network Meetings, etc.)

### 20 minutes – This Week's Discussion

Objective: To learn that no matter our condition, our standing or what we face in life - To Live is Christ!!!

#### Read Philippians 1:19 - 20 - Prayer and the Holy Spirit a Powerful Duo in Ministry!

- Paul is confident in the prayers of the saints and the help of the Holy Spirit leading to his deliverance!
- Paul is eager in his expectation and in his hope that he will not be disgraced or brought to shame in regard to the work of ministry.
- Despite being in a situation that could be considered hopeless, Paul remains hopeful continuing on courageously, knowing that his life is for Christ!
- It is faithful boldness that allows a believer to make a declaration that says whether I live or die in this situation - Christ will be glorified and honored!

#### Read Philippians 1:21 - 26 - To Live is Christ - To Die is Gain

- Paul makes what some may consider a controversial statement that can be taken out of context, in declaring to Live is Christ and to die is gain, Paul is declaring that all he lives for is to glorify Christ!
- Everything in our lives should indeed be lived as an opportunity to bring Glory to God, nothing more and nothing less - it is why we are alive and not in the Presence of the Lord!
- Paul describes the conflict within, he longs to be with Christ, yet he knows that there is still work to do in his call to spreading the Gospel!
- Being fully convinced of his purpose to continue the work of the ministry, Paul looks forward to the continuing growth and joy in the faith of the believers, as well as their Glorifying Christ when Paul returns to them.

#### Read Philippians 1:27 - 29 - The Life lived Worthy of the Gospel of Christ!

- Whether our leaders are around or not, we should be living our lives as a living testimony of the Gospel of Christ!
- In living our lives for Christ we also; as evidenced in verse 27; need to live our lives together with other believers, strengthening each other in unity of thought and spirit!
- Our walking in unity allows for a boldness in our lives that shows the Salvation of God at work in our lives to our enemies!
- This boldness is powerful as we walk out lives that are not promised to be free from the same suffering and conflict Christ faced, but empowered by His Strength at work in us!
- We should never be afraid of conflict and testing, knowing that Christ will be Glorified!



## 20 minutes – This Week’s Discussion Questions

Question 1: Do you consistently stand in faith and prayer for those who are in testing? How do you allow the Holy Spirit to guide you in these times?

- It is important to pray for those who are “going through” and to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we pray!
- There may be times that the Holy Spirit urges us to pray for family, friends and leaders. The person(s) that the Holy Spirit is leading us to pray for, though we know nothing in the natural, may be in a season of struggle.
- When we pray for those in struggle, we are being used by God as an intercessory weapon in the Heavens to bring healing and deliverance!

Question 2: In what ways are you strong in Living for Christ, and in what ways are you weak in Living for Christ? An honest personal assessment will allow us to grow stronger in Living for Christ!

- Each of us may have strengths that another is weak in, and weaknesses that another is strong in the faith, it is through fellowship and unity we are able to strengthen each other!
- In joy and frustration, in abundance and lack, in unity and disarray, our lives must be lived for Christ!
- There may be times we struggle like Paul with the conflict of being with Christ in Heaven, or in continuing the work we are called to complete on earth... While we may go through seasons of longing to be with Christ, while we are on earth we must do His Work!

Question 3: What are the most important tools to keep ready and sharp so we can Live in a Worthy Manner?

- We MUST be strong in our fellowship, prayer, Bible Study and ministry to others!
- While these are but a few of the needs in our Walk, they will keep us grounded in all we do, for the Glory of God!

## 10 minutes – Closing in Prayer

- Pray that each person learn and apply a lifestyle based on our lesson
- Pray that the group keeps each other accountable in doing so
- Pray prayers of agreement with individuals with prayer requests
- Close with a prayer that everything be sealed by the Holy Spirit and for safety in traveling

## Post Meeting Fellowship

- Leader should collect contact information from any new attendees
- Time of Post Meeting Fellowship does not have to be restrictive but held within reason
- Good time to share testimonies
- Be sure no one feels they are *obligated* to stay if they need to go

## Dismiss the Group

- Post meeting – Leader should log in to Connect Leader’s Web Report and enter attendance and any new member or visitor information then submit the data