

Philippians 1:19-26

All for Jesus

Christ-centered ...

I. The Pauline Creed

A. Christ in Life

B. Christ in Death

II. Not For Apostles Only

A. My Life

B. My Future

*... no matter what.
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Children, Listen ...

1. How do you think Paul had courage to face possible death?
2. What does he mean that for him to live is Christ?
3. What does he mean when he says that for him to die would be gain (even better)?
4. What does it mean to live your life for Jesus?

A Common Creed

If you could state your life creed in just a few words how would it read? The apostle Paul manages to fit his into twelve words (in the English). He wrote: "for to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21). His life was about Jesus Christ his Lord. Make no mistake; Paul was not a one dimensional, boring man. He was a scholar with a broad range of knowledge, he interacted with people from all walks of life, was a world traveler and he even experienced life behind bars. But one thing, or better said one individual, transcended everything he was and did. No matter what happened to Him the fact that he belonged to the Lord not only gave him assured confidence and great courage, it put in perspective his entire life and eternity. Christians are not one dimensional, cookie cutter folks, though some may perceive us that way. We are complex individuals with many different interests and talents, various callings in life, and we are all over the world. And yet, we have a common life creed: "to live is Christ, to die is gain. We believe it, may God grant us the grace to live it.