

## Small Group Bible Study / Discussion

Sermon Series: Joyful Faith  
Sermon Title: Confidence in Life or Death

Date: May 17, 2009

Passage: Philippians 1:19-26

Message # 4

### Think about it

- Why do some people not want to live?
- What makes people want to live long lives?
- What do you think it will be like to die?
- What makes this life worth living?

### Examine it

- How would Paul be delivered? (19)
- What was Paul confident about? (20)
- What would death be to Paul? (21)
- What would living on be to Paul? (22)
- What was Paul torn about? (23)
- What was more necessary for Paul? (24)
- What would Paul's continuing mean to the Philippians? (25-26)

### Discuss it

- How did Paul view the prayer of the Philippians? How does our view of prayer compare?
- What was Paul wrestling with in this passage?
- How did Paul view life and death? Why did he view them this way?
- Why was it hard to choose to life or death for Paul?
- How does Paul's view of death compare to your own?
- Why do you think Paul was convinced that if he lived, it would mean fruitful labor for him?
- Paul's situation was win / win, no matter if he lived or died. Do you agree or disagree?
- Why do you think Paul was convinced Jesus would be exalted through him, no matter what?
- Why do you think the Philippians would have joy in Christ on account of Paul?

### Live it out

- How do you view life? How do you view death?
- What does it take to have confidence like that of Paul, when it comes to life or death?
- If you continue to live this life, will it mean fruitful labor for you? Why, or why not?
- What does the Gospel have to do with your life's purpose?
- Are you convinced that departing this life and being with Christ is "better by far"? Why or why not?  
What difference does that make in the way you live right now?

### Pray about it

*What does this study prompt you to pray about?*

...something to praise God for? ...thank God for? ...confess? ...ask for?

Additional passage for meditation or memory: John 14:1-6; 2 Corinthians 5:1-10

Next week's passage: