

The Story: Paul's Final Days

August 2-3, 2014 / Dan Solofra

²¹ For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²² If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³ I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴ but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. **Philippians 1:21-24, NIV**

In ministry we need to know the “_____”.

The win for Paul was _____ in this life and then going to _____ when this life was over.

¹⁸ For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. **Philippians 3:18-19, NIV**

³⁶ What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? **Mark 8:36, NIV**

If your win is to serve _____, you will _____.

¹² Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. ¹³ As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. ¹⁴ And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear. **Philippians 1:12-14, NIV**

What were some circumstances that helped Paul move towards the win?

⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, ⁹ for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. **But God's word is not chained.** ¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. **2 Timothy 2:8-10, NIV**

Paul was willing to _____ one for the _____.

³ Join with me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. **2 Timothy 2:3, NIV**

² **Preach the word;** be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. **2 Timothy 4:2, NIV**

¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. **2 Timothy 3:16-17, NIV**

Paul worked to _____ the next generation of _____ in Christ's church.

⁶ For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing. **2 Timothy 4:6-8, NIV**

Paul's ministry did not end in _____, but _____!

MEMORY VERSE

⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. **2 Timothy 4:7, NIV**

Bottom line: I will live my life to win. I will share Jesus with others while I live and join Jesus in heaven when I die.

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.