



January 24/25, 2015
Accomplices of Grace
Philippians 1:21-30



OBSERVE & REFLECT

(This section is designed to encourage us to reflect on and observe the scripture and weekend sermon)

READ Philippians 1:21-30

- ▢ Read the text at least twice. Try reading the text from two different translations.
- ▢ What do you observe in the text? What jumps out at you and grabs your attention? What questions do you have from the text? Pay attention to any action words or phrases and observe what the implications are.
- ▢ Reflect on the sermon from the weekend regarding this passage. What aspects or truths from the sermon left an impression on you and why?

INVESTIGATE & APPLY

(This section focuses on what the scripture has to say as we dig deeper into the Word. It is oriented to create discussion on the scripture)

- ▢ In verse 21 Paul talks about what it means to live and what it means to die. If you were to complete this next sentence, what would you say: "For me to live is _____, and to die is _____." How may others answer this same question?

Also, what stirs your heart with passion? What do you devote your time and energy to? How do you spend your time and money? (these may help you when answering the blank above)
- ▢ In verse 20 our Bibles use the word 'honored'; the word that Paul writes is 'magnified'. Have you ever really thought that the way you live your life might magnify Christ? And in the same way, the way you die may also magnify Christ? Talk about what it looks like in a person's life when they are magnifying Christ. And how can a person magnify Christ in their death?
- ▢ In verse 22, Paul says that he is going to choose 'fruitful labor'. (it may be helpful to see John 15 to understand this reference) Then in verse 27 Paul uses the word 'striving', which is where we get our word 'athlete'. It seems that Paul is very strongly pointing to the Christians in Philippi, telling them they have to be out on the field, that they can't stand on the sidelines or sit in the stands (of life).

Clarify Paul's thought in your own words. What is he saying? Why may it be easy to live life on the sidelines?
- ▢ Paul's main point in verses 21-30 is to "live a life in a manner that is worthy". So what does a worthy life look like? What does it look like to live the way of Jesus? (you can use Matthew chapters 5-7 for direction if needed)

Grace to you and may you magnify Christ.