

Winter Park Christian Church: Pastor Samuel Ruiz  
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## ***Living a Life Worthy of the Gospel of Jesus Christ***

May 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### ***Philippians 1:19-27***

Paul was resting in the Sovereign will of God regarding his future. Paul writes to the Church of Philippi, conscious that he could die any day, that he was sure that Christ was going to be honored in his body, whether by life or by death. Paul saw the personal benefit of dying as well as the benefits for others of living. Paul trusted that God had a purpose in his life.

#### **Paul's letter to the Philippians...**

##### **...was a profound and emotional letter.**

*"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you," (verse 3)*

*"...I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, ... " (verse 7)*

*"For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus." (verse 8)*

##### **...was a passionate and purposeful letter.**

*"as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will be not at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death." (verse 20)*

*"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (verse 21)*

*"...My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account." (verse 23-24)*

- Paul's desire was to depart and be with Jesus; for the believer, what else could be better? Yet Paul was willing to remain in the world to serve the church as long as God had work for him to do.

##### **... was full of conviction and direction.**

*"I want you to know, brothers, ... " (verse 12)*

*"Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again." (verse 25-26)*

*"Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel." (verse 27)*

#### **Our conduct matters!**

*"Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, ... " (verse 27)*

*"...By this we may know that we are in Him: whoever says he abides in Him ought to walk in the same way in which He walked." 1 John 2:5-6*

#### **❖ Our conduct, behavior and lifestyle is a common theme in the Bible.**

*Ephesians 4:1 "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,"*

*Ephesians 4:17 “Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the gentiles do, in the futility of their minds.”*

*1 Timothy 3:14-15 “I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.”*

- ❖ Paul prayed that the Colossians would be filled with the knowledge of God’s will in order to live in a manner worthy of the Lord.

*Colossians 1:9-10 “And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of The Lord, fully pleasing to Him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;”*

- ❖ As we walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, we please Him, we bear fruit, and we grow in the knowledge of God.

*Ephesians 4:2-3 “with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”*

*Romans 12:2 “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”*

*1 Corinthians 6:19-20 “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.”*

- ❖ The charge to conduct oneself as a citizen worthy of the gospel of Christ emphasizes the responsibility to live for The Lord, representing His kingdom.

*1 Thessalonians 2:12 “we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.*

- 2 Corinthians 5:17-20

### **Our conduct builds testimony!**

*“...so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you...” (verse 27)*

- ❖ Our conduct is the evidence of our faith.
  - Our actions speak louder than the things we loudly proclaim, therefore as we conduct ourselves according to His will, our testimony will be consistent with our faith.

*Romans 1:8 “First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world.”*

*1 Corinthians 1:11 “For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers.”*

- ❖ Paul wrote to the Philippians that whether he came or was absent, it was only a matter of time before he would find out how they were doing.

- When our actions generate godly testimony, the Name of God is glorified.
  - Matthew 5:14-16
- When our actions generate ungodly testimony, we despise His person and the name of God is blasphemed.

*Proverbs 14:2 “Whoever walks in uprightness fears the LORD, but he who is devious in his ways despises Him.”*

*1 Timothy 6:1 “Let as many bondservants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and His doctrine may not be blasphemed.” (NKJV)*

*2 Peter 2:1-2 “But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed.”*

*Romans 2:24 “For, as it is written, ‘The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.’”*

### **Our conduct and testimony require perseverance!**

*“...that you are standing firm in one spirit...” (verse 27)*

❖ God has called us to be diligent and to persevere in our faith and hope, in such a way that it produces fruit.

*Colossians 1:21-23 “And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, He has now reconciled in His body of flesh by His death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before Him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.*

*2 Peter 1:10 “Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall.”*

*Hebrews 10:39*

*“But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed,  
but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.”*

#### Endnotes:

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