



# Study Guide

## Philippians 1:12-30

### Read Philippians 1:12-30

1. We may refer to ourselves as either a glass half full or a glass half empty kind of person. What would you refer to Paul as? Do you think Paul's mindset was more than just positive thinking?
2. Do you think Paul's viewpoint was particular to him or one that God desires for us to have? Why or why not?
3. Paul is writing the letter of Philippians from a prison cell around the year 62 A.D. Death awaits him, yet Paul is not discouraged. How did Paul's experiences advance the gospel in verses 12-14? How did Paul's hardships benefit both the unbeliever and the believer?
4. If you realized that your hardships were being used to draw others to Jesus, how would it impact the way you viewed those hardships?
5. We may like the idea of God's sovereignty in grandiose ways, but we forget about it in the nitty gritty and personal difficulties of our life. Read Genesis 50:20 and Romans 8:28. How does being reminded of God's sovereignty bring encouragement in the midst of our heartaches and trials?

6. What was Paul's aim above all else in verses 19-30?
  
7. Personalize and complete this phrase: To live is \_\_\_\_\_, to die is \_\_\_\_\_. What heart issues do those answers reveal?
  
8. If we lived with the mindset of Paul (to live is Christ, to die is gain), would it change the decisions we make? How? (*Other filters or driving values we may find ourselves living under might be: comfort, popularity, wisdom, financially feasible, safety, status, etc.*)
  
9. What are the things that we tend to cling tightly to? What do you think is the key to loosening our grip on things that are not Christ?

We cling to what we think we cannot live without. Perhaps there are things that you have identified in your own life that you are clinging to more than you should. As you close, confess those things to one another and pray for one another.

**For next week: Read Philippians 2:1-11**

