

Session #2: Sharing with Joy

Text: Philippians 1:12-22

Question #1: When have you been encouraged by the faith and perseverance of others?

(1:12-14)

Adversity Advances the Gospel

- Paul's Chains Released him rather than binding him (see 2 Timothy 2:9)
- Chains: Complain or Consecrate
- Is it known through your "work place" you are in Christ?

Question #2: What do these verses teach us about sharing Christ?

(1:15-19)

Evangelism Assessment

Reflect on these 5 questions:

- How confident do you feel in your knowledge of the gospel message?
- 2. How confident do you feel in your ability to express the gospel message to others?

- How confident do you feel in your ability to answer questions about the gospel and what it means to follow Christ?
- 4. How comfortable do you feel with initiating spiritual conversations and confronting others about their need for Christ?
- 5. How comfortable are you with the idea of discipling a new follower of Jesus?

"It could be that one of the great hindrances to evangelism today is the poverty of our own experience."

~Billy Graham

Paul's Critics

- Two types of motives: Strife and Good Will
 - What is your aim in preaching and spreading the gospel?

Paul looked at results no the motive

Question #3: Why do we sometimes feel ashamed about sharing the gospel?

(1:20-22)

Growing in Boldness

Three aspects to Paul's declaration:

- 1. The <u>Public Nature</u> of the Statement
- 2. The <u>Grace</u> in the Statement
- 3. The <u>Steadfast attitude</u> in the Statement

Christ was the very source of Paul's life, the motivating and energizing principle of existence that transformed his manner of living.

Unashamed (v.20)

My determined purpose is to be my utmost for His highest—my best for His glory. To reach that level of determination is a matter of the will...an absolute and irrevocable surrender of the will. ~Oswald Chambers

Telescope and Microscope

- Telescope: Brings distant things closer to view
- Microscope: Makes small (tiny) things appear bigger or have clearer definition

As we go through crisis moments our lives are "lens". Unbelievers need a "little Christ" to look big and a "distant Christ" come close.

Final Thrive Thought

• Life can simply be understood as what we are alive to. The thing in life that excites us and motivates us is the thing that is "life" to us. To Paul Christ was his life. We will live with Joy if to live is Christ.