



Men in the Word

"Your words were found, and I ate them,
and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart."
Jeremiah 15:16



Faith Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church Men's Ministry 2014

Lesson 4

"The Crucified Life"

Paul was not afraid to die physically, because he had already crucified self for the sake of the Gospel. He wasn't concerned about being "**delivered**" from his circumstances, but from anything that would cause shame to the name of Jesus. To Paul, whether he lived or he died, he was the Lords. His desire was that when people looked at him, and the way he lived, they would not see Paul, but Christ in Him. Is it also your "**earnest expectation and hope**" that Jesus would be magnified in your body? When people look at your life, do they see Jesus? As you study and pray over this passage, ask God to show you how to live the crucified life, so that you can say with Paul, "*For me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*"

Passage: Philippians 1:19-21

Key Scripture: Philippians 1:20

Scripture: John 3:22-30

John the Baptist had drawn a lot of attention in his ministry; thousands and thousands of people had come from all over to hear him preach and to be baptized by him. Yet when Jesus finally came on the scene, John did not compete with Him for attention. What was John's response when his disciples reported that everyone was going to Jesus to be baptized?

Scripture: Psalm 34:1-3

It was said of David that he was a man after God's own heart. For him, too, it was all about God. What three things does David say he will do to "**magnify the Lord**" in verses 1-2? How often does he say he will do them?

Scripture: Galatians 2:20; Luke 9:23

What does Paul say has to happen if Jesus is to live in and through our lives (Galatians 2:20)? What does Jesus say we must do on a “**daily**” basis in order to follow Him (Luke 9:23)?

Scripture: Philippians 1:20

What was Paul’s “**earnest expectation and hope**” for his life and what does he indicate he would feel if it did not happen? What do you feel when your actions do not magnify the Lord in your body?

Scripture: Philippians 1:19

What two things does Paul remind us we all need if we are to live a life that magnifies Jesus and doesn’t bring shame to His name?

Group Discussion – *Personal Application*

Paul reveals a single-minded focus for his life; one that does not consider self, but looks only to “**magnify the Lord.**” His greatest fear is that he will shame the name of Jesus. Does it shame you when you act or talk in a way that doesn’t magnify Jesus? Talk in your groups about what it will take to crucify the flesh and live only for the glory of God. How important is prayer and dependence on the Spirit in all of this? Save time at the end of the group discussion to break off in pairs and pray for the “supply of the Spirit” in your brother’s life.

Memory Verse

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.”

Romans 12:1