

Get Involved

God calls Christians to be disciples by gathering to worship, getting involved in intentional community, and living a life of mission. Take a step forward in discipleship through:

- Audio/Visual Team**
Help with projected slides and lyrics in the worship service
- Community Groups**
Meet with a CG during the week in order to connect with other and grow in faith.
- Serving PCC Children and Youth**
Be a role model for our growing Children's and Youth ministries.
- Serving Los Angeles**
Provide care and support to LA's poor and marginalized through Hope for LA.
- Serving Abroad**
Support our global missions partners through short-term missions trips.

NAME

EMAIL

PHONE

Reflections

In a 2017 sermon, Mr. Wang asked his congregation what he should do if the government demanded even limited control over their church: Should he agree and avoid persecution, or resist? He joked that some people might ask him if he couldn't make a few compromises. "We've got an 80-year-old grandma at home and we just had a child!" he said, anticipating the argument. But then Mr. Wang argued against this sort of accomodation. "In this world, in this crooked, depraved, and perverse world, how do we demonstate that we are a group of people who trust in Jesus?" he said. "It is through bodily submission, through bodily suffering, that we demonstrate the freedom of our souls."

From the NY Times article, *This Chinese Christian Was Charged With Trying to Subvert the State* March 25, 2019

When Paul says, "To live is Christ, and to die is gain," he means it. If you want to kill me, I will be more than fine: I will get to be with Jesus. My death will be filled with Christ. And if you to let me live, I will press on in mission. My life will be filled with Christ. If you want to torture me or imprision me or mock me, I will trust in God. My suffering will make me like Christ. I will see it as a sharing of His own suffering."

Matt Chandler, *To Live is Christ to Die is Gain*

Sermon

To Live is Christ, To Die is Gain

Rankin Wilbourne

Scripture

Philippians 1:12-26

¹² I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³ so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴ And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. ¹⁵ Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. ¹⁶ The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. ¹⁷ The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. ¹⁸ What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice, ¹⁹ for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰ as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴ But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵ Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶ so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

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