



A STUDY  
**JOY**  
in the  
JOURNEY  
OF PHILIPPIANS



WARRIOR'S HEART

BAND OF  
**BROTHERS**  
MEN'S MINISTRY

Phil. 1:12-26





January 26, 2023

## **Joy in the Journey: A Study of Philippians**

Finding Joy in Difficult Circumstances - Philippians 1:12-26  
Jonathan Johnson

Paul provides us with a view of Authentic Christianity in vs. 12-26

Philippians 1:12-14

- His imprisonment was actually advancing not hindering the gospel.
- God had opened the door for Paul to preach the gospel to the Roman Military (palace guard).
- Paul was also able to preach to his fellow Christian Leaders in Rome
- Paul's example of faith in persecution gave other believers fearlessness
- Ex. Nero was the current Emperor in Rome during Paul's imprisonment
- In the face of adversity Paul chose to believe in God

Philippians 1:15-18

- Some preached from a position of envy and strife as they were jealous of Paul's ministry
- Their motives are between them and God
- Paul found a spirit of Joy as they were preaching the gospel and the Word of God was spreading

Philippians 1:19-20

- He was encouraged because of their prayers and the filling of the Holy Spirit
- Paul had confidence no matter the circumstance

Philippians 1:21-26

- To live is \_\_\_\_\_, to die is \_\_\_\_\_
- Each situation is a blessing from Christ
- Paul desired to help his fellow believers' progress in their faith

### **Questions:**

1. How does the World say we should live life?

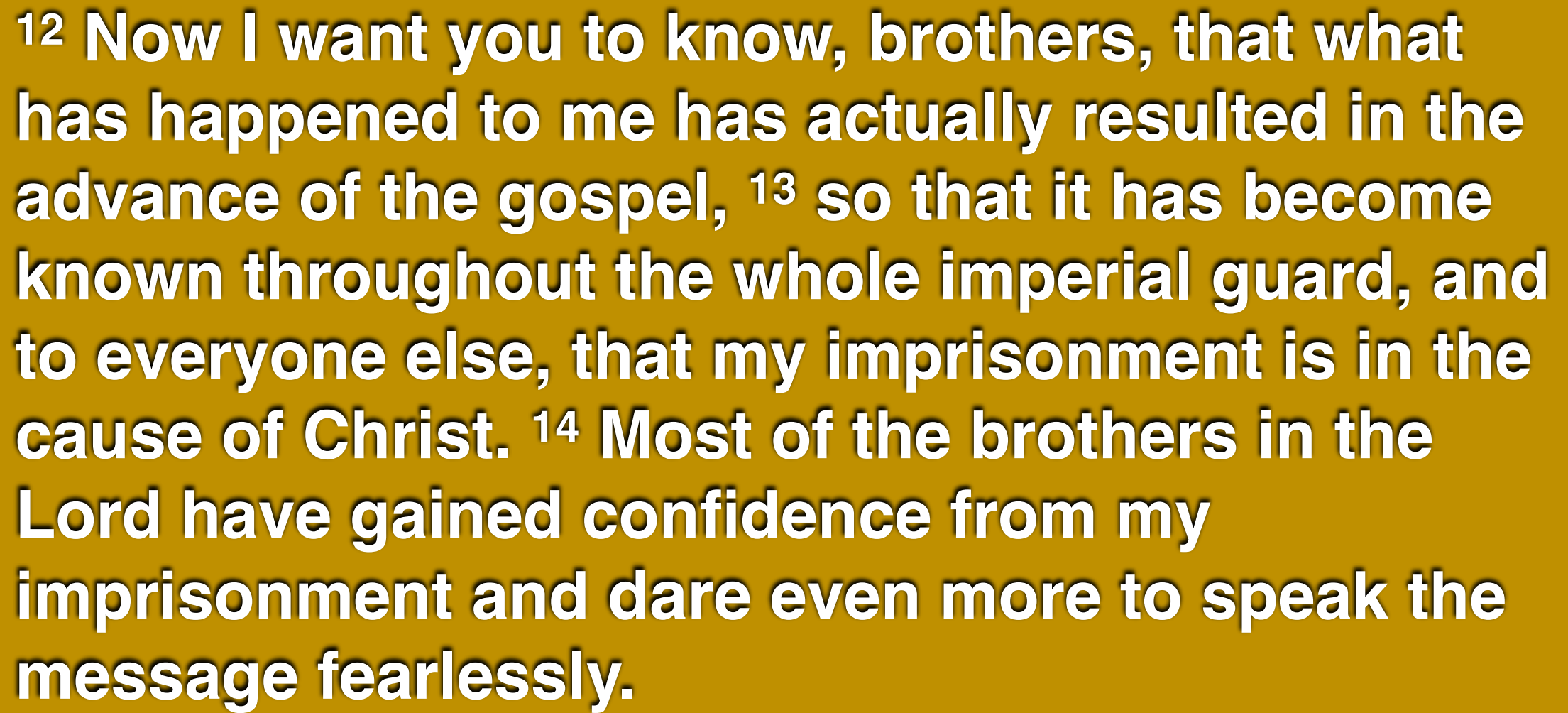
Read Vs. 21 again

2. What things/perspectives get in the way of us putting Christ first in our lives?
3. The Life struggles Paul goes through transformed him into one of the greatest examples of Authentic Christianity. How do we ensure our life journeys produce the same passion for Christ in our lives?

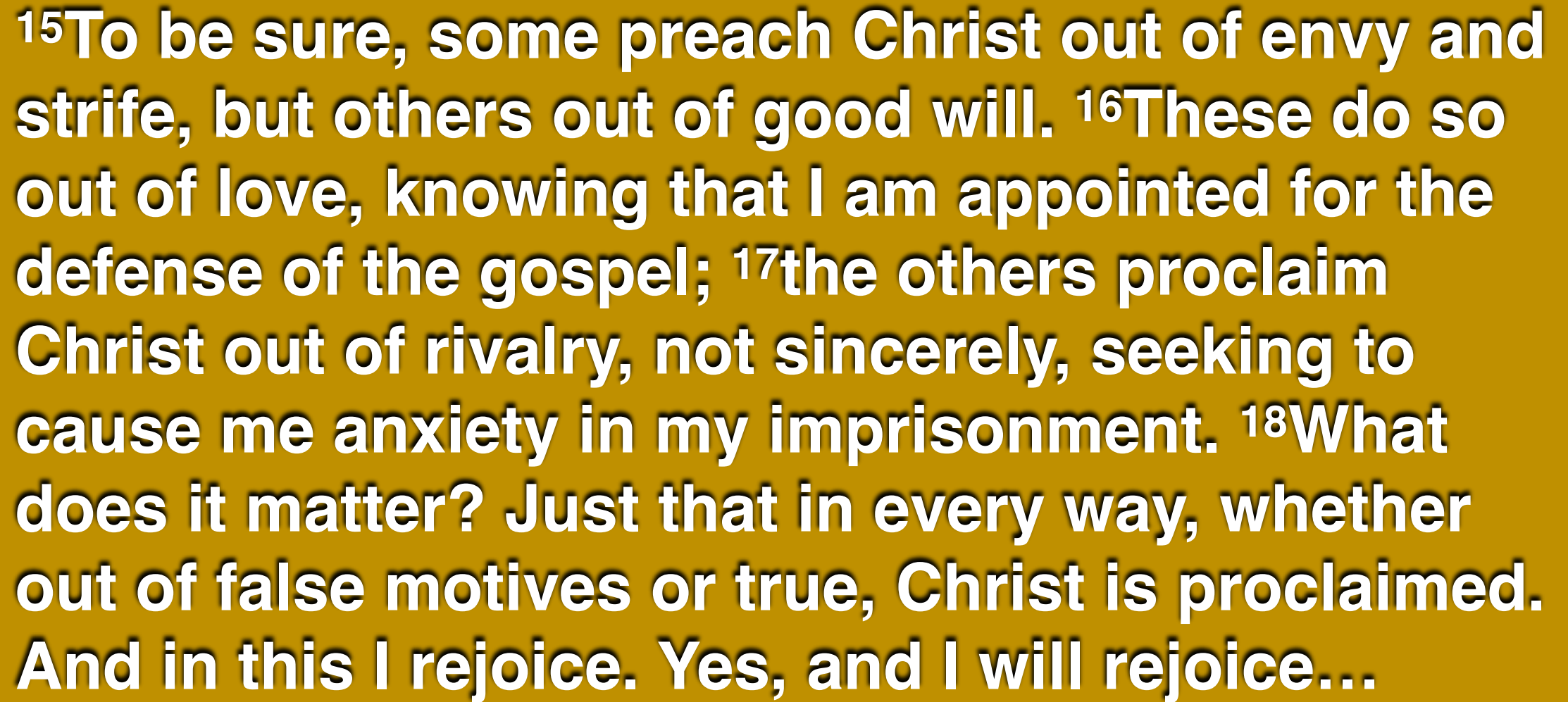






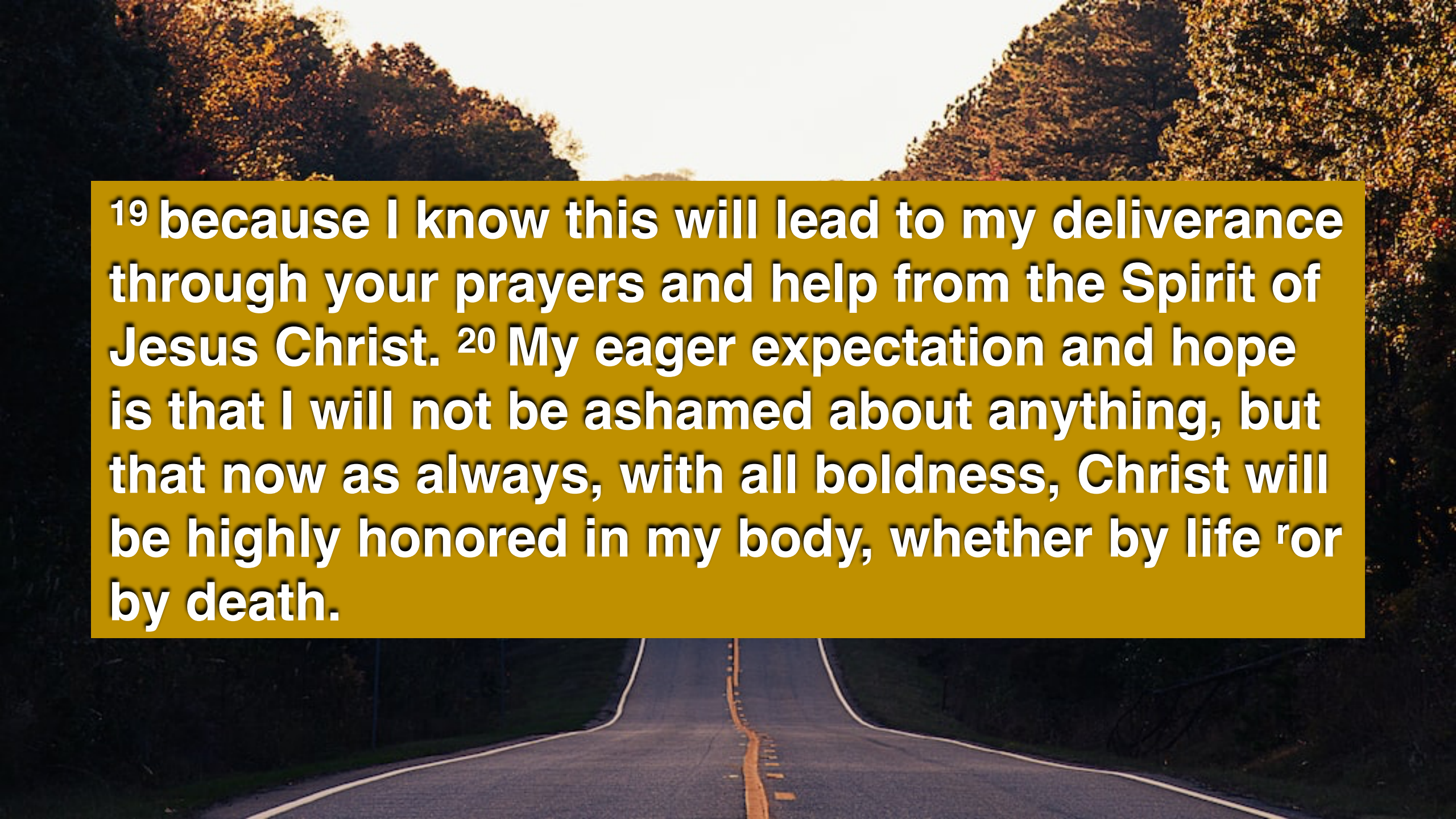
A photograph of a paved road winding through a forest. The trees are covered in autumn foliage, with shades of yellow, orange, and brown. The road has a dashed white line down the center and solid white lines on the sides. The sky is a pale, hazy blue.

**<sup>12</sup> Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has actually resulted in the advance of the gospel, <sup>13</sup> so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard, and to everyone else, that my imprisonment is in the cause of Christ. <sup>14</sup> Most of the brothers in the Lord have gained confidence from my imprisonment and dare even more to speak the message fearlessly.**

A photograph of a paved road winding through a forest. The trees have autumn foliage in shades of orange, yellow, and brown. The road has a dashed center line and solid edge lines. The sky is visible at the top, appearing bright and slightly hazy.

**1<sup>5</sup>To be sure, some preach Christ out of envy and strife, but others out of good will. 1<sup>6</sup>These do so out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel; 1<sup>7</sup>the others proclaim Christ out of rivalry, not sincerely, seeking to cause me anxiety in my imprisonment. 1<sup>8</sup>What does it matter? Just that in every way, whether out of false motives or true, Christ is proclaimed. And in this I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice...**



A photograph of a paved road winding through a forest. The trees on either side have dense foliage with some autumnal colors like orange and yellow. The road has a dashed yellow center line and solid white edge lines. The sky is bright and clear.

**19 because I know this will lead to my deliverance through your prayers and help from the Spirit of Jesus Christ. 20 My eager expectation and hope is that I will not be ashamed about anything, but that now as always, with all boldness, Christ will be highly honored in my body, whether by life or by death.**



**21 For me, to live is Christ, to die is gain. 22 Now if I live on in the flesh, this means fruitful work for me; and I don't know which one I should choose. 23 I am pressured by both. I have the desire to depart and be with Christ—which is far better— 24 but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. 25 Since I am persuaded of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, 26 so that, because of me, your confidence may grow in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.**



A photograph of a paved road winding through a dense forest. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow that filters through the trees. The road has a dashed yellow center line and solid white edge lines. The text "To Live is CHRIST, to die is GAIN!" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the middle of the image. The words "CHRIST" and "GAIN" are underlined.

To Live is CHRIST, to die is GAIN!



# Table Discussion

1. How does the World say we should live life?

**Read Vs. 21 again**

2. What things/perspectives get in the way of us putting Christ first in our lives?

3. The life struggles Paul goes through transformed him into one of the greatest examples of “Authentic Christianity.” How do we ensure our life journeys produce the same passion for Christ in our lives?

