

“Woe to him who saw no more sense in his life, no aim, no purpose, and therefore no point in carrying on. He was soon lost.”

- Viktor Frankl, *Man's Search for Meaning*

Perspective

What does it matter? Only that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is proclaimed, and in this I rejoice. Yes, and I will continue to rejoice because I know this will lead to my salvation through your prayers and help from the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:18-19, CSB

My eager expectation and hope is that I will not be ashamed about anything, but that now as always, with all courage, Christ will be highly honored in my body, whether by life or by death.

Philippians 1:20, CSB

For me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

Philippians 1:21, CSB

To live is Christ

to zēn Christos

to zēn chrestos

To die is gain

I long to depart and be with Christ—which is far better—but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for your sake.

Philippians 1:23, CSB

1. Death, which means being with Christ
(preferred)

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2. Remaining alive, which means work
ahead (what Paul knows will be the case)

if to live is Christ and to die is gain,

EVERYTHING receives its meaning and
fulfillment in Jesus

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, so that, because of my coming to you again, your boasting in Christ Jesus may abound.

Philippians 1:25-26, CSB

Why are you here?

1. A renewed perspective

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2. A willingness to lay aside preference to
bless others

“For the joy that lay before him, he endured the cross...”

Hebrews 12:2, CSB

“forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 3:14, ESV

1. What drives your daily decisions and long-term goals? How might viewing life through Paul's lens change your current priorities?
2. In what specific ways could you approach your current "assignment" (job, parenting, retirement, etc.) as ministry to others and service to Christ?
3. How does our culture typically view death, and how does that compare to Paul's perspective?
4. What fears or anxieties about death do you carry? How might Paul's confident hope in being with Jesus change how we live today?
5. Who are the people God has placed alongside you to encourage you when you're ready to quit the long race of faith?