**Philippians 1:12-26**

* **Chains offer new the believer** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. (1:12-14)**
* Paul wanted to go to Rome as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but instead he went as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* He could have written a letter emphasizing the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of his plans being thwarted by an evil government.
* He could have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about people ruing God’s plan.
* He didn’t! Instead, he summed it all up as *“And I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters, that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News. ”* (Phil. 1:12).
* Paul’s chains/captivity helped him have a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with more lost people.
  + He was chained to a Roman soldier twenty-four hours a day.
* Paul’s chains/captivity also opened the door to have a voice with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Caesar’s court.
  + He was in Rome as an official \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and his case was an important one.
  + The Roman government was going to determine the official \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of this new sect of Judaism called The Way… (Christians)
* When we are single minded about the things of God, we look on our circumstances as God-given \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the propagation of the gospel
* Paul’s chains/captivity also gave \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the new followers of Christ.
  + Believers in Rome took courage when they saw Paul’s faith and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Phil. 1:14)
  + They were able speak the truth of the gospel without \_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Your chains may not be as intense or difficult, but God is able to use you in the same way as those early believers.
* **Criticism should not deter those with the message of** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. (1:15-19)**
* We first have to be willing to use some critical thinking skills here… We don’t just determine things because they are “\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”.
* We must establish truth by certain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ values that are immutable (unchanging).
* The word immutable is almost exclusively used for scripture and it reminds us that God’s truth is not able to be muted. The truth will not be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* When we have a single mind, we see criticism not as a personal attack but as another \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_for the propagation of the gospel.
* He was able to rejoice, not in the eventual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and certain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of his opponents, but in the fact that Christ was being preached! (Phil. 1:17)
* **Crisis should never** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **the believer. (1:20-26)**
* In Paul’s crisis, Christ was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_! (Phil. 1:20)
  + It was possible that Paul would be found a traitor to Rome and then be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + Paul’s saw his body and the life within it was not his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , his only desire was to magnify Christ.
* In our crisis we are a lens to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to see Christ in us.

**So What Now?**

* Are your chains making Christ known? (Phil. 1:13)
* Is criticism amplifying your desire to campaign for Christ? (Phil. 1:18)
* Is your crisis magnifying Christ? (Phil. 1:20)

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