

Living a Life of Joy

Deeply Experiencing Jesus Christ

#2 Philippians 1:12-26

Sunday, April 13, 2008

The Joy of Intimacy with Christ

Pastor Kevin Block

Turn in your Bible to Philippians 1:12 Last week in Philippians 1:1-11 we saw...

1. A defining quality of being a Christ follower is JOY.
**A joyless Christ-follower should be an oxymoron to us...as absurd as me saying I am 1000 years old.*
2. A determining factor of whether or not we experience Joy is whether or not we wear 'Jesus glasses'.
**Joy is determined not by our circumstances but by our ability to see all of life from Jesus' perspective.*
3. We put on 'Jesus' glasses' by seeing ourselves as slaves of Christ, saints in Christ, needing grace from Christ.
**Joy: Jesus is my master & has changed my life (forgiven me & lives in me), I need Jesus' grace in all things!*

OUTLINE Living a Life of Joy

	Character Quality	Exhortation...
1:19-21 Jesus is My LIFE	Bond-slave of Christ	You are partners... FOR God began...
2:6-8 Jesus is My SACRIFICE	Humility in Christ	Work out... FOR God is working in...
3:7-10 Jesus is My RIGHTEOUSNESS	Christ-confidence	Press on to know... FOR God made you His
4:10-13 Jesus is My STRENGTH	Christ-contentment	You can do all... FOR God strengthens you

We have all experienced the frustration when our expectations don't line up with someone else's.

For example, when Pam & I go out to eat, her expectation is to try a new restaurant—be adventuresome, but my expectation is to go to a place we know is good—been before. This differing expectation=frustration.

Imagine there are two ships getting ready to leave port in San Diego, a vacation cruise ship & a battleship.

Everybody getting on the cruise ship has a certain list of expectations—rest & relax...have a certain mind-set.

Every experience & everything that happens will be filtered through the grid of going on a 2-week vacation.

In contrast, everybody getting on the battleship has a different set of expectations—they are headed out to war.

Every experience & everything that happens is filtered through the grid of going to battle.

Everything is okay as long as the vacationers get on the cruise ship and the sailors get on the battleship.

But if some vacationers get on the battle ship or sailors get on the cruise ship, there will be massive problems.

WHY? It is because their expectations don't match up with the reality of their experience.

This image of boarding two possible ships...is an excellent word picture of living the Christian life.

I believe the discouragement/disappointment we have with God is because we think we are on a cruise ship.

When we trusted Christ, we believed God put us on a cruise ship, with Him serving us & making us happy.

If that is how you kind of think about the Christian life, then you will be greatly discouraged & disappointed.

You will never experience joy because God didn't put you on a cruise ship; but rather on a battleship.

MY PURPOSE: I am asking the Spirit to impress on your heart two simple and yet JOY inspiring truths:

1. **Regardless of your circumstances, you have a God-given stewardship to Proclaim Christ.**
 - We need to be freed from deeply-ingrained habits of timidity, silence and fear.
 - We need to be freed from long-established anxieties of ruffling feathers & offending secular pluralists.
 - We need to be freed to speak the truth of Christ in love without looking over our shoulder at the snickering.
2. **Regardless of your circumstances, you have a God-given privilege to Treasure Christ.**

I. Regardless of your circumstances, you have a God-given stewardship to Proclaim Christ.

1. **Put on your 'Jesus glasses—Imprisonment has worked out for the best—Gospel spreading.'** (vs. 12)
12 I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel,

In verse 12, when Paul says, 'I want you to know...' he was responding to concerns that the Philippians had.

There was correspondence between Paul in prison & Philippian believers--they knew his circumstances.

They were trying to interpret Paul's circumstances as to whether they were good or not-- concerned.

Paul's answer is simple: that which has happened to me— my circumstances—has advanced the Gospel.

The circumstances Paul is referring to is not just his being in prison but what happened for several years.

-After leaving Philippi on his 3rd journey (20:6), Paul went to Jerusalem & was arrested & jailed (21:33).

-Paul appealed to Caesar (25:11), which was accepted & he was taken to Rome (27:1).

-On the voyage to Rome a huge storm destroyed their ship (27) & they're shipwrecked on Malta.

-While there, Paul was bitten by a deadly snake when picking up sticks, but he didn't die (28:1-6).

-After 3 months, they boarded a ship that took them to Rome where he was imprisoned (28:11-14).

Paul had told the Philippians that Jesus is the Savior and will take care of you if you trust Him.

So when the Philippians heard what happened to Paul—they asked—is God really taking care of you?

In effect, the Philippians thought that they had boarded a cruise ship—why all the suffering/persecution? In verse 12 Paul is trying to shift their perspective and say, “*Folks, we didn’t get on a cruise ship.*”

We got on a battleship, and the battleship has a mission, and that mission is to advance the gospel.”

The phrase ‘to advance’ is a military phrase=engineer who would clear obstacles so troops could advance. So Paul is saying that what matters is the advancement of the gospel—that’s the mission.

And all these circumstances are things God is using to accomplish His mission—leading people to Christ.

***What ‘ship’ are you on?**

2. Believe the Lord has you where you are to be His witness to the people in your life.’ (vs. 13-14)

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.

In verse 13, when Paul says that the whole imperial guard, he is referring to the special elite Roman forces.

Paul normally would have no access to this elite group of soldiers, who were highly influential in Rome.

But in his persecution for Christ he finds himself chained to them—chained to 2 of them on 6-hour shifts.

So every 6 hours, Paul pours the truth of the Gospel into two guards, and then two more the next 6 hours.

As a result, some responded to the Gospel & trusted Christ—which was being talked about in Rome.

So rather than seeing his circumstances as a disaster on a cruise ship, Paul says, “God is directing my circumstances to advance the gospel, in order to reach people we never could have reached before.”

1 Cor. 15:1-5 Jesus Christ died to pay for sins & buried AND was raised to life & appeared to many.

***Are you taking advantage of our God-given opportunities to speak of Christ right where you are?**

In verse 14, Paul notes that most of the Christ-followers were more confident to share Christ without fear.

He says those who came to faith because of his imprisonment were gaining courage to speak of Christ.

You might think it would be the opposite, that because of Paul in prison they would be intimidated.

But rather, they were gaining courage & speaking boldly. Gospel was spreading. Mission was being done.

***What is your mission field like?**

3. Proclaim the Gospel of Christ out of love for Christ, love for others & for your joy. (vs. 15-18)

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 rivalry, 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,

In verses 15-17 Paul notes that there are two kinds of Christ-followers sharing Christ while he is in prison.

1. Some were sharing Christ because they love Paul; because they love Jesus; & because they love people.

They share Christ from good will, out of love...supporting Paul’s work of defending the Gospel.

2. Others were sharing Christ out of “envy & rivalry”—because they were jealous of Paul.

They weren’t false teachers for they were proclaiming the truth of the Gospel of Christ.

But just because someone is saying the right words doesn’t mean that person’s heart is right.

They were saying the right words, but for all the wrong reasons—in this case envy & rivalry.

They didn’t like that Paul was in the spotlight—leading the charge, the one whom God was using.

Rivalry was a political word, it means ‘to canvas for a vote’-saying what is needed to get a vote.

They were out there trying to make a name for themselves and trying to steal the spotlight.

They were trying to make Paul miserable in prison, as *they* now were in the spotlight not Paul.

It would have been easy for Paul to be discouraged—it is bad enough that the Romans were against him, but to have people who professed to be believers also against him is a bitter pill to swallow.

But in verse 18, Paul says, “I rejoice! Yes I will rejoice.” **What is Paul rejoicing in?**

That believers were sharing Christ with selfish motives? NO! But rather that Jesus was being proclaimed!

Paul’s mindset is—‘the true gospel is advancing, and that is the mission and in that I fully rejoices.’

All of this has to do with the fact Paul knew he is on a battleship and the mission is to advance the gospel.

If Paul had thought he was on a cruise ship & what was important was his comfort/ease—making sure the

air conditioner is working, buffet is full of food & he catches some rays, Paul wouldn’t be rejoicing.

But Paul has a whole different mindset that is allowing him to process what he is experiencing.

Imagine how our lives would change if we really understood that we're on a battleship and that...

Everything that comes our way is a circumstance that somehow God wants use to advance the gospel. Rather than constantly being discouraged and disappointed and wondering, *Why this...why that?*

What if we would see all of our circumstances as opportunities God may use to reach out to people? In that perspective, everything goes through the grid of advancing the gospel and fulfilling God's mission. It's not about me. It's not about my popularity. It's not about my comfort. It's not about my ease. But ultimately what it *is* about is God's *mission*—Proclaiming the Gospel of Christ to people!

To live this way is not something you just decide to do...but is the result of God's working in you.

That is why Paul prayed in vs 9-11 to grow in their love so they would live for what is excellent.

***ASK the Lord to make His love in you to grow to the point where Jesus' love for you consumes you!**

***ASK yourself:** Why am I alive? Why do I have gifts and abilities? Why do I have opportunities?

God's answer: To fulfill My mission—to proclaim both by your actions and words Jesus' good news!

To be honest, living on the battleship is not easy or fun, but requires sacrifice and hard work.

I would rather live on a cruise ship. It is hard work to live on a battleship compared to a cruise ship. Nobody really wants to do life on a battleship. Nobody really wants to live out life on a battleground. Rather we want to live out life on a playground. That's what's in my heart.

But living on the battleship doesn't mean you must not dream of living on a cruise ship—I'm just postponing it. A day is coming when I will have paradise forever—live with Jesus forever, which is what I long for. But I understand that isn't *now*. If I tried to set up a vacation resort in the middle of a battlefield=disaster! That isn't the purpose of this life. That is the purpose of the life to come.

Imagine a soldier going to Iraq & tries to set up a little vacation resort right in the middle of the battlefield.

That wouldn't be very smart would it? Yet, I think many of us, as Christians, are trying to do just that. We're trying to set up a vacation resort in the middle of the battlefield, & thus we are disappointed. We are discouraged because we are trying to create what is *to come* in the midst of the battle zone. It won't work. God has placed us on His battleship not a Cruise ship.

He has commanded us to live for the sake of others—loving & serving people & pointing them to Jesus!

***What does it mean to proclaim Christ?**

So where does the strength to daily live on God's battleship of loving all people & pointing them to Jesus? Paul gives us the answer in verses 19-26.

II. Regardless of your circumstances, you have a God-given privilege to Treasure Christ.

1. Believe PRAYER makes a difference—it engage God in the doing of His will. (vs. 19)

19 for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance,

In verse 19, Paul says that his “deliverance”—either from prison or from the limitations of this life will happen because of two things...the Philippians praying for him and the Spirit of Jesus helping him. Paul says part of what is going to affect his deliverance will be the prayers of the people in Philippi **AND** The help of the Spirit...the Philippians' praying will result in the Spirit delivering Paul.

Paul says prayer is important and effective because it engages God in the accomplishing of His purposes.

One of the defining qualities of Berean is that we seek to hold a high view of God's sovereignty **AND** emphatically affirm the importance of our participating by faith with God in the doing of His will.

God's supremacy AND our choosing to participate with God by faith must be kept in their proper place.

I must admit, I don't fully understand how prayer works within the framework of God's sovereignty.

But the Bible clearly teaches that prayer does engage and in some way ‘moves the hand of God.’

Truth: God has determined that many of His blessings are only released by the praying of His people.

***I read an example of this simple truth** this past week in my personal devotion time with the Lord.

Joshua 10 tells us how the Gibeonites were being oppressed by five kings so they asked Israel to help.

Joshua 10:8-10a;12-14 says, “*And the LORD said to Joshua, "Do not fear them, for I have given them into your hands. Not a man of them shall stand before you."* 9 *So Joshua came upon them suddenly, having marched up all night from Gilgal. 10 And the LORD threw them into a panic before Israel, who struck them with a great blow at Gibeon...* 12 *At that time Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD gave the Amorites over to the sons of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, "Sun, stand still at Gibeon, and moon, in the Valley of Aijalon."* 13 *And the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, until the nation took vengeance on their enemies...* 14 *There has been no day like it before or since, when the LORD obeyed the voice of a man, for the LORD fought for Israel."*

I don't think Joshua was given a specific word from the Lord about asking Him to give them a long day. But Joshua did have God's promise and knew His will—namely that God wanted to defeat these 5 kings. In line with that revealed will, Joshua boldly asked the Lord to do what he thought was needed: long day! It was God's purpose to use Israel to defeat these five kings...since Joshua's bold prayer was in line with that revealed desire...the Lord responded by giving Joshua what he asked for.

James 4:2b says, '...you do not have, because you do not ask.'

1 John 5:14-15 says, 'And this is the confidence that we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will--He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of Him.'

What place does Prayer have in your life?

2. **Live to honor Jesus in everything you do—now & always.** (vs. 20)

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.

In verse 20, Paul says *it is my eager expectation and hope*. 'Stretching out your neck to see what's coming.'

***Paul says he lives with a sense of expectation that he will not be ashamed**--no regrets before Jesus Christ.

Rather, he will live with full courage NOW & tomorrow so that Christ will be honored in his life.

***Honoring Christ was priority #1 for Paul.** It wasn't his health! It wasn't his safety! It wasn't his agenda!

NOW: Not...when I am in college or when I get married or when I have children or when I retire...NOW

Whether by living or dying: Paul saw that either option would serve his purpose of honoring Christ!

***Paul lived life with JOY no matter the circumstance** because he was OK with dying for loving Christ.

***Paul was serving on God's battleship**--leading people to Christ not sunbathing on a Cruise ship.

What is your top priority?

3. **Ask yourself: is to die gain? Do I live with the purpose of knowing, loving & obeying Jesus?** (vs. 21)

Your our eternity is determined by whether or not you treasure Jesus Christ!

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

In verse 21, Paul is not saying the way to become a Christian is by treasuring Christ, but rather THE most clear evidence you have trusted Jesus to save you from God's righteous judgment is that you now treasure, value, love, desire, delight in Jesus Christ more than anything else in life...including life itself.

Those who treasure Christ...who believe with all their heart that to die is gain...give evidence that they have truly trusted Jesus to save them and have been transformed by Christ—experienced the new birth.

There is no exhortation in verse 21...merely Paul's personal testimony of where his heart is..

To live is Christ means you fully accept your being a bond-slave of Christ, a saint in Christ (holy & completely forgiven & changed), and constantly in need of God's grace through Jesus Christ.

To live is not pleasure...not success...not people's praise...not possessions...not good health BUT

To live is *Christ*—knowing, delighting in, loving, trusting, & walking in obedience with Jesus Christ.

To die is gain refers to two things: 1. At the moment of death, Paul would be in Jesus' immediate presence.

2. Because of his death, the Gospel would advance—the blood of martyrs is the fertile ground of new life.

At death...our spirits will be made perfect (put off completely power of indwelling sin)-**Heb.12:23**

At death...we will be relieved of the pain of this world-**Luke 16:25**

At death...we will be given profound rest in our souls-**Rev. 6:11** & a deep at-homeness-**2 Cor. 5:8**

Do you really treasure Jesus Christ?

4. **Live for the benefit of others—in community—even as Jesus lived!** (vs. 22-26)

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.

In verses 22-26, Paul reveals how he viewed life-way in which all of us should view our lives. 2 Options:

1. If I continue to live, Jesus will use me to help others in walk with Him=channel of His grace.

2. If I depart (put my tent somewhere else), Jesus will bring me to His presence=experience His glory.

Paul says, 'there is a sense in which I find it really hard to decide which of these 2 options I prefer...'

Because both options are good: Die & be with Jesus or Live & continue to be used by Jesus for you.

Verse 24 says that Paul chose the way of love for others...

Anything this world has to offer me is just a taste of what is to come. So what does this world offer me? It offers me nothing...thus *I want to go home. I want to get off the battleship and be in Jesus' presence.*

But I understand that I am not in control of what option God has for me—It is his decision...

I understand as long as I am here on earth, I am on assignment. I have a mission=advance the gospel. And whatever circumstances come into my life—it is all part of God's mission to advance the gospel. The way to maintain a perspective that this is a battleground is to know a better day coming. I realize this isn't paradise, but rather is a battleground therefore I have to get my game face on. Understanding this is life changing—it really is.

Think about whatever difficulty you are facing and view it *not* through the lens of:...why is it happening? poor me!...where is God in all of this?... this is ruining my cruise!

But think of it through the grid of: How can God use this to advance the gospel?...lead people to Christ, disciple those who know Christ to joyfully live for His glory?

How might my circumstances be used by Jesus to reach people I normally could not reach?

This perspective changes the way you look at everything. Everything!

***What is more important to you: Health or Jesus? Family members or Jesus? Pleasure or Jesus?**

1. What kind of ship are you on? 1. Cruise ship=fun or 2. Battleship=spiritual warfare.

If you are a Christ-follower & see yourself primarily as being on a cruise ship=frustration/bitterness!

Trying to set up a vacation resort in the middle of the battlefield...doesn't work!

If you are a Christ-follower & see yourself as being on a battleship=in mission: proclaim Gospel of Christ

Trusting Jesus in every circumstance to clearly & lovingly proclaim Christ to people in your life=joy!

2. Do you trust the Lord to do His role & to enable you to do your role in bringing people to Christ?

God has a *decisive* role in causing the new birth by which sinners are saved-makes them alive to trust Christ.

Believers have an *essential* role in the way God brings about the new birth—share the good news of Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:5: “*What we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.*” **Tell people the good news of Christ from a heart of love and a life of service.**

3. Is Jesus your greatest treasure? Does the way you spend your Time? Talents? Treasures prove it?

Jesus Christ is deeply experienced by those who have passed through trials with their eyes on Jesus.

Jesus Christ is deeply experienced by those who join Him in His mission on earth—proclaiming the Gospel!

Our Father, we are thankful that you have a passion for people; that what is on your heart is to advance the gospel that is life changing, both now and forever. Lord, oftentimes we are guilty of trying to set up some sort of a holiday resort in the midst of the battlefield, and then we're disappointed when it doesn't work.

Lord, help us to understand that we are really here on assignment. We're here on a mission and this is a battleground—not a playground. Help us to understand what it means to say, “to live is Christ, to die is gain.”

Lord, help us to experience joy. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Observations from John Piper

http://www.desiringgod.org/ResourceLibrary/TasteAndSee/ByDate/2006/1776_Dont_Waste_Your_Cancer

The good that Jesus wants to bring about through a difficult circumstance will be wasted or lost if you...

1. Do not believe this difficulty is designed for you by God.
2. Believe this difficulty is a curse and not a gift from God.
3. Seek comfort from your odds or chances of beating this difficulty rather than from trusting in God.
4. Think that beating this difficulty is more important than cherishing Christ more because of it.
5. Spend too much time reading about how to beat this difficulty and not enough time reading God's Word.
6. Let this difficulty drive you into solitude instead of deepen your relationships with others.
7. Treat sin as casually as before you experienced this difficulty.
8. Fail to use this difficulty as a means of witness to the truth and glory of Christ.

Deeply Experiencing Jesus Christ #2 Philippians 1:12-26

TURN in your Bible to Philippians 1:12 Last week in Philippians 1:1-11 we saw...

1. Joyless Christ-follower an oxymoron to us...as absurd as saying I am 1000.
2. Joy determined not by circumstances but ability to see all of life from Jesus' persp
3. Joy: Jesus: my master, changed my life (forgiven/lives), gives grace in all things!

OUTLINE 1:21 Life, 2:8 Sacrifice, 3:9 Righteousness, 4:13 Strength

Frustration when our expectations don't line up with someone else's. *eating out!

WP: Imagine 2 ships port 1. cruise ship 2. battleship 1=2 wk vacat 2=going to war

All OK if vacat=cruise & soldiers=battleship But if some vacat=battleship? Why?

WP: boarding 2 poss ships: disappointment w/God—we think we are on cruise ship!

PURPOSE: Spirit impress two simple & yet JOY inspiring truths:

1. **Regardless of circumstances, you have a God-given stewardship to Proclaim Christ.**
Habits of timidity, silence, fear Anxious ruffling feathers -Look over shoulder snick
2. **Regardless of your circumstances, you have a God-given privilege to Treasure Christ.**

Proclaim Christ

1. **Put on your 'Jesus glasses—Imprisonment has worked out for the best—** (vs. 12)
-After leav Ph 3rd journ (20:6), Jerl-arrested-jailed (21:33) appealed Caesar (25:11)
-Taken Rome (27:1) storm destroyed ship (27) Malta, bitten by snake didn't die (28:1)
-After 3 months, boarded a ship took them to Rome where he imprisoned (28:11-14).
Paul taught: Jesus Savior take care ...Ph:REALLY? Wrong ship: cruise ship: why
***What ship are you on?**

2. **Believe the Lord has you where you are to be His witness** (vs. 13-14)

13 Imperial guard—normally no access But in persecution chained 2 every 6-hour.

Paul saw circ NOT as a disaster on a cruise ship, but GREAT opport on battleship

14 Most CF more confident...more bold...less fear TO SPEAK Word=Gospel of JC

***What is your mission field like?**

3. **Proclaim Gospel of JC--love for Christ, love for others & for your joy.** (vs. 15-18)

15-17 1. Some PC: envy/rivalry 2.Others PC: good will: love Paul, Jesus, people.

17 Former: rivalry=polit: canvas for a vote, jealous of Paul NOT False teach

18 Paul could be discouraged: Roman/Jews against him AND some true believers!

Paul=battleship=mission=advance gospel NOT cruiseship: -comfort,-ease,-buffet

How would y life be diff IF y lived as being on a battleship=proclaim JC?

Every circ=God use advance gospel How? God must work in us Vs. 9-11

Living on battleship not easy/fun, but sacrifice/hard work Cruiseship is coming!

Imagine soldier in Iraq set up resort right in middle of battlefield: -work, danger

***What mean to proclaim JC? Where strength live on battleship=procl J & love p**

Treasure Christ

1. **Believe PRAYER makes a difference—engage God in doing of His will.** (vs. 19)

Deliverance—freed from prison: released or martyred HOW? Ph. Praying & Sp of JC

God's supremacy AND Man's respons **I don't fully understand how prayer works**

God determined that many His blessings are nly released by the praying of His people.

Joshua 10:8-10a;12-14 Not specific word but God revealed will: Ja. 4:2b,1 Jn. 5:14

***What place does Prayer have in your life?**

2. **Live to honor Jesus in everything you do—now & always.** (vs. 20)

Expectation: not be ashamed-no regrets before JC live full courage NOW & always

***Honoring Christ was priority #1 for Paul.** -health! -safety! -agenda!

NOW: Not...when college, married, have children, retire...NOW

***What is your top priority in life?**

3. **Ask yourself: is to die gain? Y purpose: know, love & obey Jesus?** (vs. 21)

Your our eternity is determined by whether or not you treasure Jesus Christ!

Not saying way to become Christian by treas JC, but evid y have trust JC is treas JC

To live is Christ: bond-slave of Christ, saint in Christ (holy/forgiven), need grace

not pleas, succ, p's praise, possess, health BUT Know,delight,love,obeying JC

To die is gain 1.At death=be in Jesus' pres 2. Bec death, Gospel advance—martyrs

At death: spirit perfect-**Heb.12:23**, relieved of pain-**Lk 16:25**, deep at-home-**2 Co5:8**

***Do you really treasure JC?** Talk with H? Listen to H? Seek H? Follow H?

4. **Live for the benefit of others—in community—even as Jesus lived!** (vs. 22-26)

2 Option: 1.Stay here=channel of JC 2.Go home=be w/JC in glory Hard dec! Pref #2

24: **love for others** Anything world offer me, taste of what is to come. world offers 0

Not my call to make: Here=battleship to win people to JC, rescue peop from destruct

25 Convinced...FOR Your progress 26 so that... BEC I come to y again *Didn't happ

***What is more important to you? Health or JC? Fam memb or JC?**

1. **What kind of ship are you on?** 1.Cruise ship=fun 2.Battleship=spiritual warfare.

2. **Trust the Lord to do His part & enable you to do yours bringing people to JC**

2C 4:5: What we proclaim is -ourselves, but JC as Lord, ourselves as y servants for J

3. **Is Jesus your greatest treasure? Time? Talents? Treasures prove it?**