

# PENINSULA CHRISTIAN F E L L O W S H I P

## *With Christ, Now & Always* **Philippians 1:12-30**

The heart of Paul's letter to dear friends in Christ is his confidence in **Christ in & through them**. (Vs.1:6)

- He continues to cultivate that confidence (1:12-29)

**Vs. 12**, I don't want you to misunderstand, but grasp the reality...

- What **looked bad** has turned out for good
- In fact, **the gospel is known more** because of it

**Vs. 13**, It has become "Evidence" of Christ! (Acts 1:8)

- The whole palace guard – **Bonhoeffer**
- And all the rest. **Testimony seen** spreads itself
- They know this is **about Jesus**, not Paul

**Vs. 14**, "Most of the brethren in the Lord..."

- Our calling is not compulsory for others
- "Are much more bold to speak the word without fear"  
(A good example encourages others)
- **I John 4:18**

**Vs. 15-17**, Not all who speak of Christ represent Him well

- **Matthew 7:21-23 & James 1:22**
- (Vs. 17) Love looks like Jesus

**Vs. 18**, "What then?"

- Only that **Christ is talked about**, no matter the reason
- **Matthew 13:24-30** (I Cor. 5:9-13)

**Vs. 19-20**, "I know... according to my earnest expectation and hope" (Vs.1:6)

- "Hope" = **Confident expectation** with pleasure
- In fact, "with all boldness"

**Hope of What?** Whether I live or die...

- "Christ will be magnified!"
- This is absolute **FREEDOM!!**

**How?** Through **prayers & the Spirit of Jesus**

**Vs. 21**, "To live is Christ. And to die is gain"

- This faith is a **Win, Win** situation!!
- We **CANNOT** lose!

**Vs. 22-24**, "I am hard pressed between the two"

I believe Paul is reliving his own testimony, **Acts 14:19-20**

- **II Corinthians 12:1-6**  
(Written 8 years earlier in Philippi)
- **Vs. 24**, Christ-centered selflessness

**Vs. 25-26**, Paul – reasserting and imparting confidence again

- Choosing once again, **for their benefit...**
- Their thanking Christ for **answered prayer**

**Vs. 27-28**, Them too, and us, **Evidence of Christ** (Acts 1:8)

- One in Christ, no matter the cost
- Just as Paul **did**, and **is doing** (Vs. 13)
- Proof of salvation, **Matthew 5:10-12**

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**Vs. 29-30**, "For to you **it has been granted on behalf of Christ**, not only to believe in Him, but also **to suffer for His sake**, having the same conflict which **you saw in me** and **now hear is in me.**" (In Philippi, now in Rome)

*I've given you an example...*

- Now **be one** if need be

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- **Acts 5:41...**
- **Romans 8:17 & 36...**
- **II Corinthians 1:7...**
- **I Peter 2:20 & 4:16**