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# To Live is Christ

## Philippians

### 1:19-26



**18** What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice. **19** For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, **20** According to my earnest expectation and *my* hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but *that* with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether *it be* by life, or by death. **21** For to me to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain. **22** But if I live in the flesh, this *is* the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not. **23** For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: **24** Nevertheless to abide in the flesh *is* more needful for you. **25** And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith; **26** That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again.



# Philippians 1:19

AV

- **19 For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,**

ESV

- **Yes, and I will rejoice, <sup>19</sup> for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance,**

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# Salvation or Deliverance?



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**For Paul it doesn't  
matter what happens  
both outcomes =  
deliverance.**





# Philippians 1:20

- According to my earnest expectation and *my* hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed,

**Paul is waiting a trial and  
Paul's confident hope and  
expectation is he will NOT be  
ashamed of Christ.**

**Are you embarrassed that  
you are a Christian?**







1967 - 2017







# Philippians 1:20

- but *that* with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether *it be* by life, or by death.

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**v. 20**

**Is Christ Magnified  
in your Body?**



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**Will Christ be  
honored in your  
death?**

**What will your obit  
say?**





# Philippians 1:21

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

**Two Distinct &  
Critically Important  
Messages in 1 Verse**

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**First, Let's Recognize:**  
**Everyone is living**  
**for someone or**  
**something!**



# Live for:

Money

Yourself

Spouse or Children

US Army

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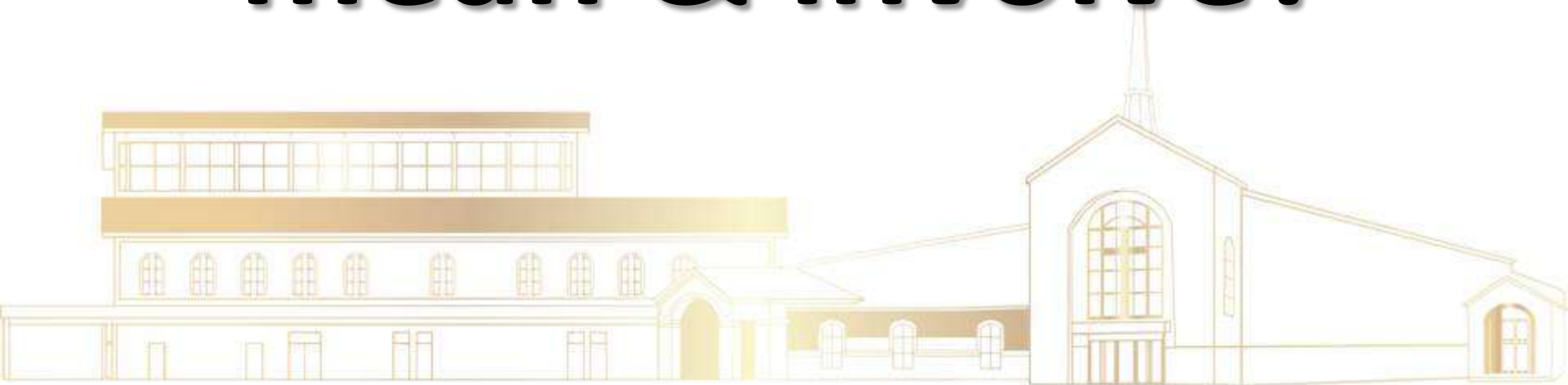
Soccer





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**What does  
'to live is Christ'  
mean & involve?**



# **“To Live is Christ”**

## **Involves:**

**His Person**

**His Work**

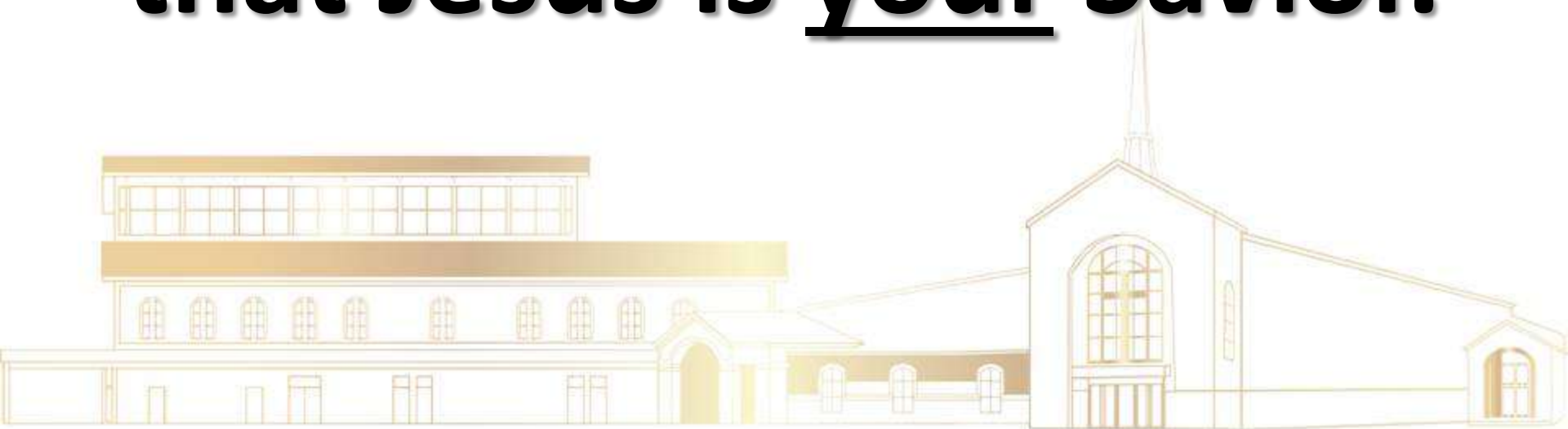
**His Church**

**His World**



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**1) To Live is Christ**  
**begins with the reality**  
**that Jesus is your Savior.**



# You believe

- Jesus is the Son of God
- Was born of virgin
- Lived a sinless Life
- Died on a cross for your sins
- Rose from the grave
- Is coming again



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**You are NOT living for  
Christ**

**If you have NOT professed  
your faith in Christ  
through baptism.**



**2) To Live is Christ**  
**necessitates that Christ**  
**is your Lord—he is your**  
**Master.**



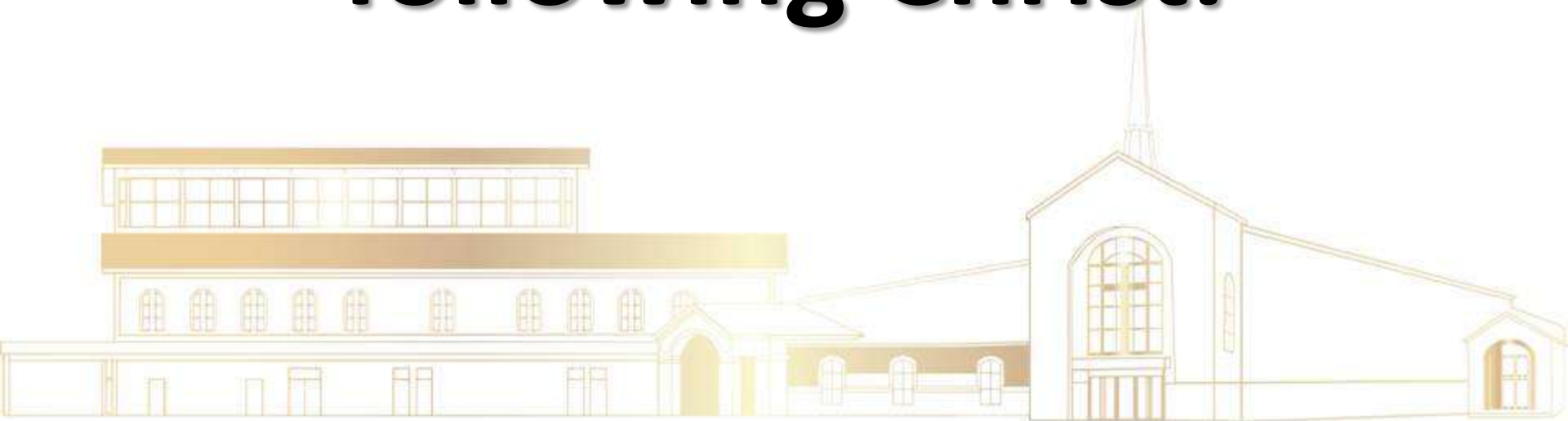


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**Greek Word for Lord Is**  
**Kryrios | kü'-rē-os**  
**Literally Master**



**3) To Live is Christ  
manifests itself in  
following Christ.**



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# John 10:27

My sheep hear my voice,  
and I know them,  
and they follow me:



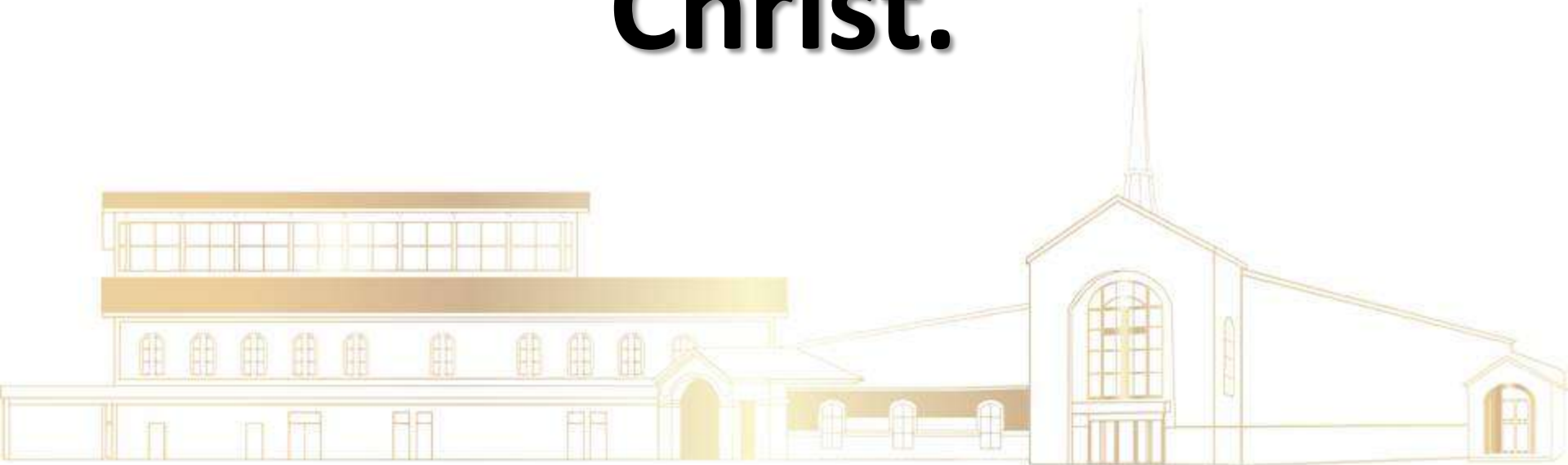
# 1 Corinthians 11:1

Be ye followers of me,  
even as I also *am* [a follower]  
of Christ.



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**4) To Live is Christ**  
**requires that you know**  
**Christ.**



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# In Philippians 3:10

Paul expresses,  
A strong desire to know  
Christ





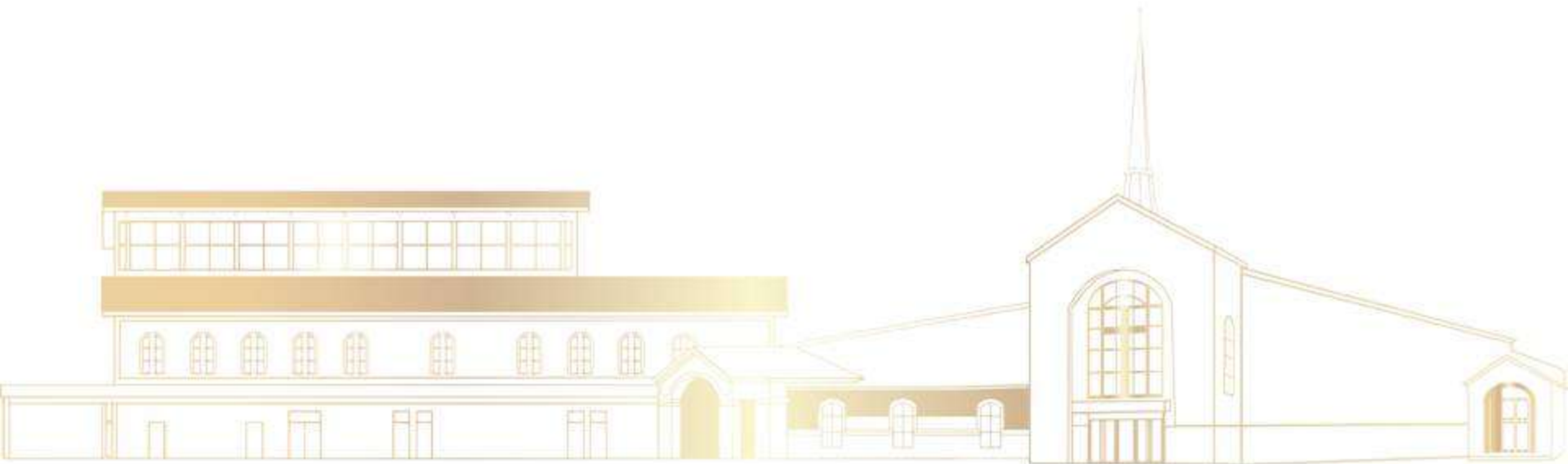
# 2 Peter 3:18

But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen.



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**5) To Live is Christ is to  
live to serve others.**



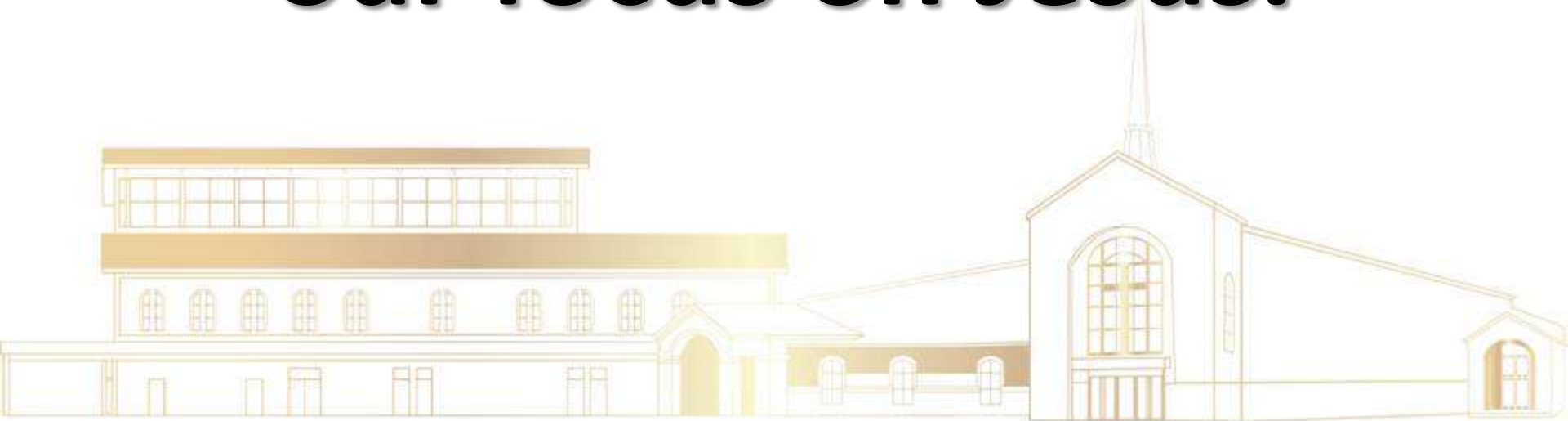
# Mark 10:45 (ESV)

For even the Son of  
Man came not to be  
served but to serve,  
and to give his life as a  
ransom for many.”



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**6) To Live is Christ**  
**requires that we keep**  
**our focus on Jesus.**

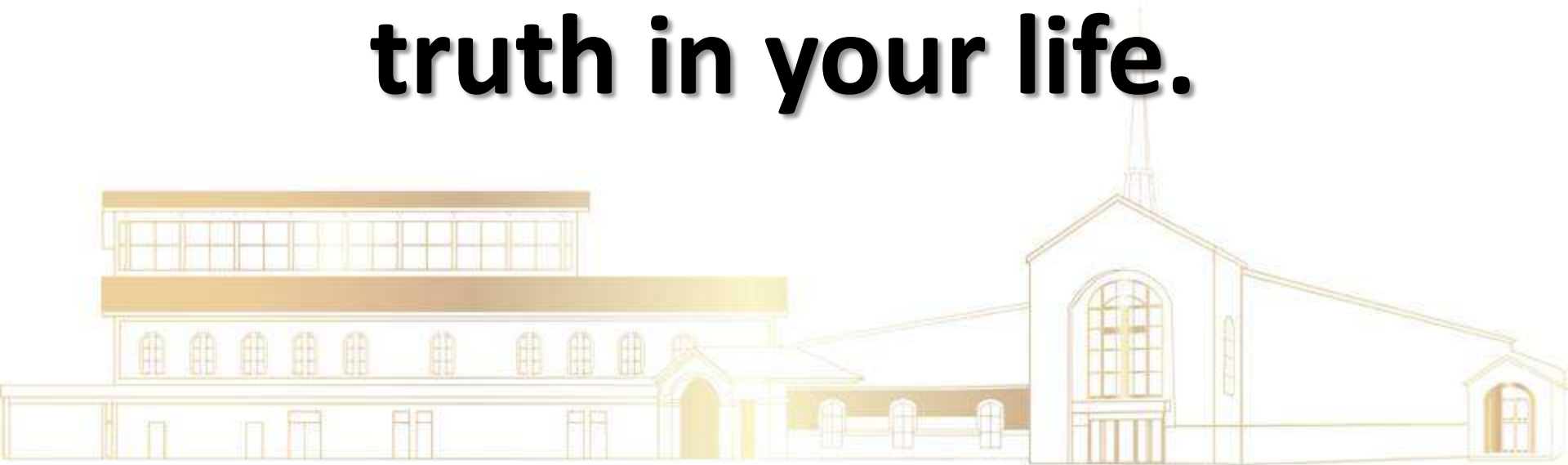


# Hebrews 12:1-2

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, **Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith;** who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.



**7) To Live is Christ means  
that His Gospel is the  
single most important  
truth in your life.**





# Mark 16:15 (ESV)

And he said to them,  
Go into all the world and  
proclaim the gospel to the  
whole creation.

The gospel is the only truth Christ has  
commanded us to proclaim.



## **8) To Live is Christ**

**focuses on applying the  
gospel to every area of  
our lives.**





# Philippians 1:27

**ESV**

- Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ,

**KJV**

- Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ:

**9) To Live is Christ** means  
that what he commanded  
are the commandments  
that we strive to live by  
every day.



# Commandments from Christ

What are the two  
greatest  
commandments  
and where are they  
found?

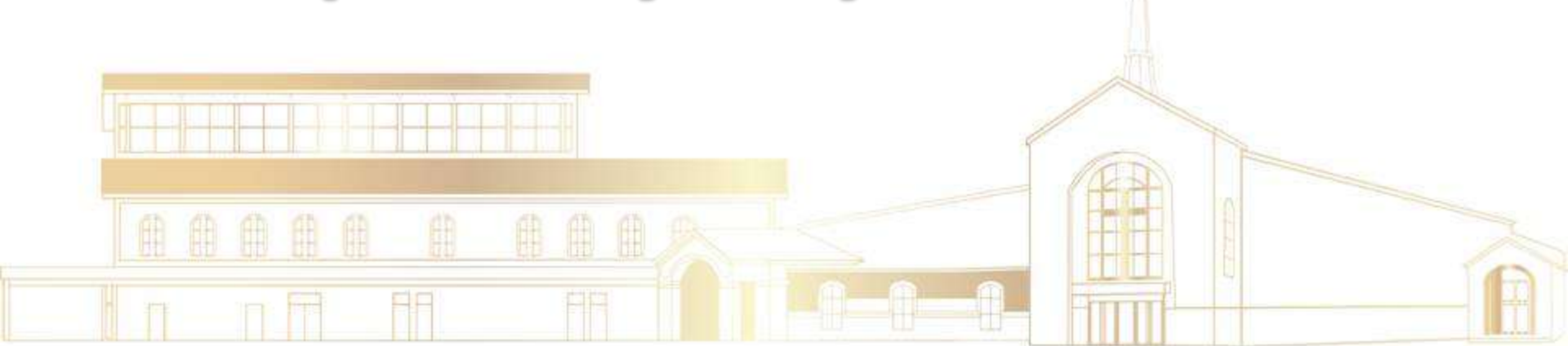


# Mark 12:30-31

And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: *this is the first commandment.* <sup>31</sup> And the second *is like, namely* this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.



**10) To Live is Christ**  
**demands that you make**  
**His Church—an absolute**  
**priority in your life.**





# Acts 20:28 (NASB96)

“Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd **the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.**



# Paul

- Planted local churches
- Preached in local churches
- Worshipped in local churches
- Gave instructions to local churches
- Wrote letters to local churches
- Appointed elders in local churches
- Prayed for local churches
- Did church discipline w/ local churches

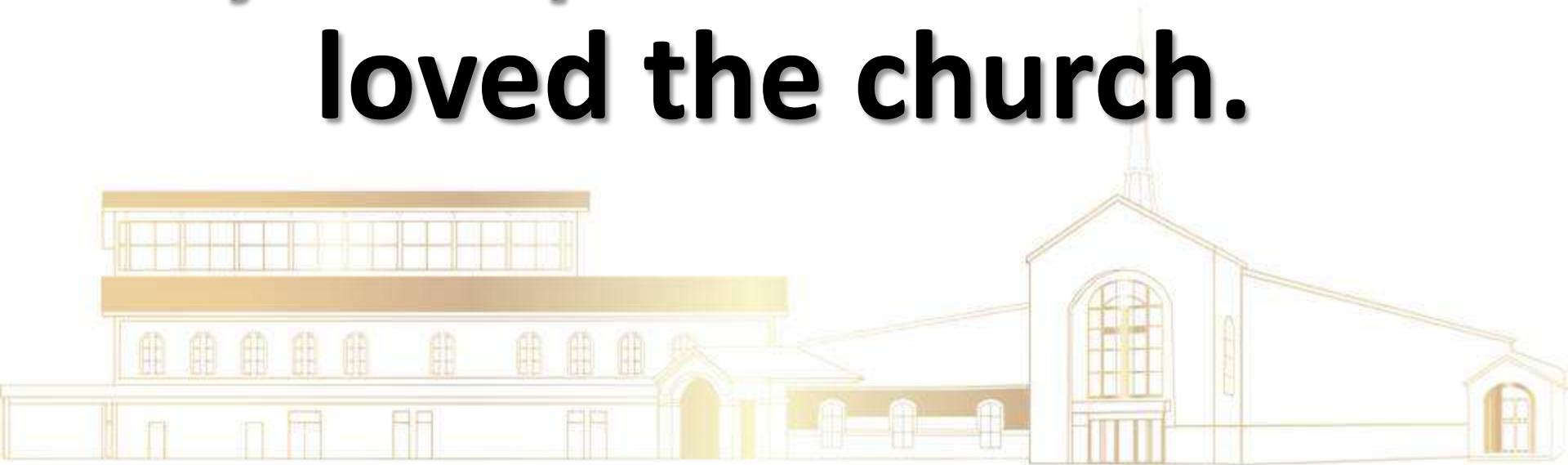


# 1 Timothy 3:15

But if I tarry long, that thou  
mayest know how thou  
oughtest to **behave thyself in**  
**the house of God, which is**  
**the church of the living God,**  
**the pillar and ground of the**  
**truth.**



**11) To Live is Christ**  
**requires you to love**  
**your spouse as Christ**  
**loved the church.**



# There is NO Way

You are living for Christ:

1. When you are not loving your spouse
2. Honoring your parents
3. Obeying your God-ordained authorities
4. Parenting your children



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**12) To Live is Christ**  
**necessitates that you**  
**care about the world**  
**that God loved.**



# Christians Care About People & The Planet







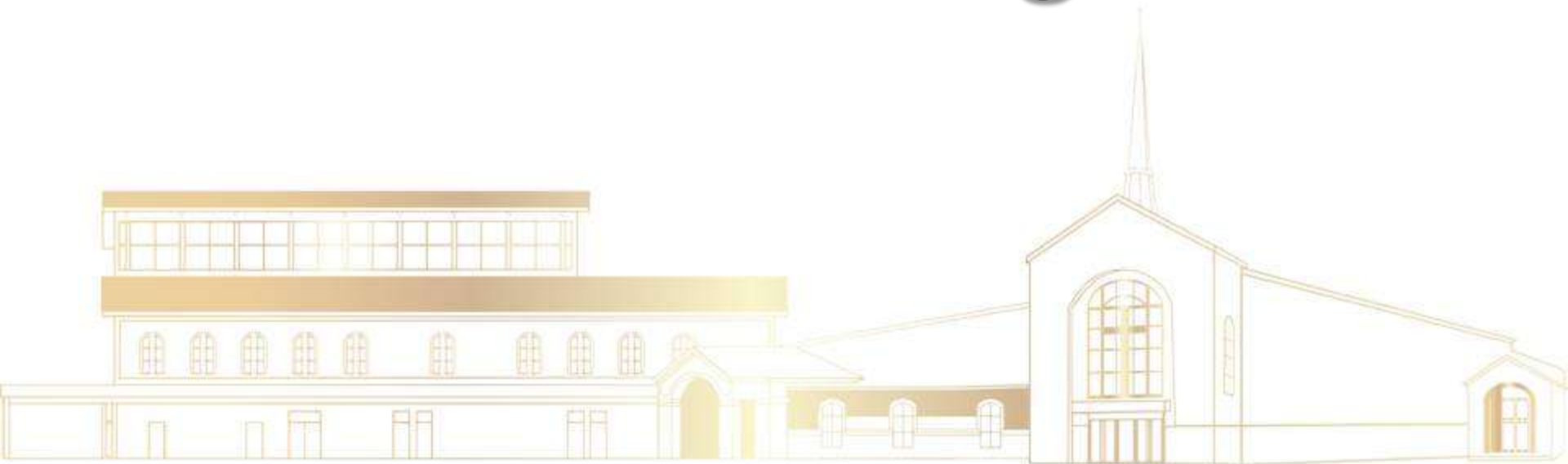
# Philippians 1:21

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

**Part II**

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**What must be true for  
death to be a gain?**



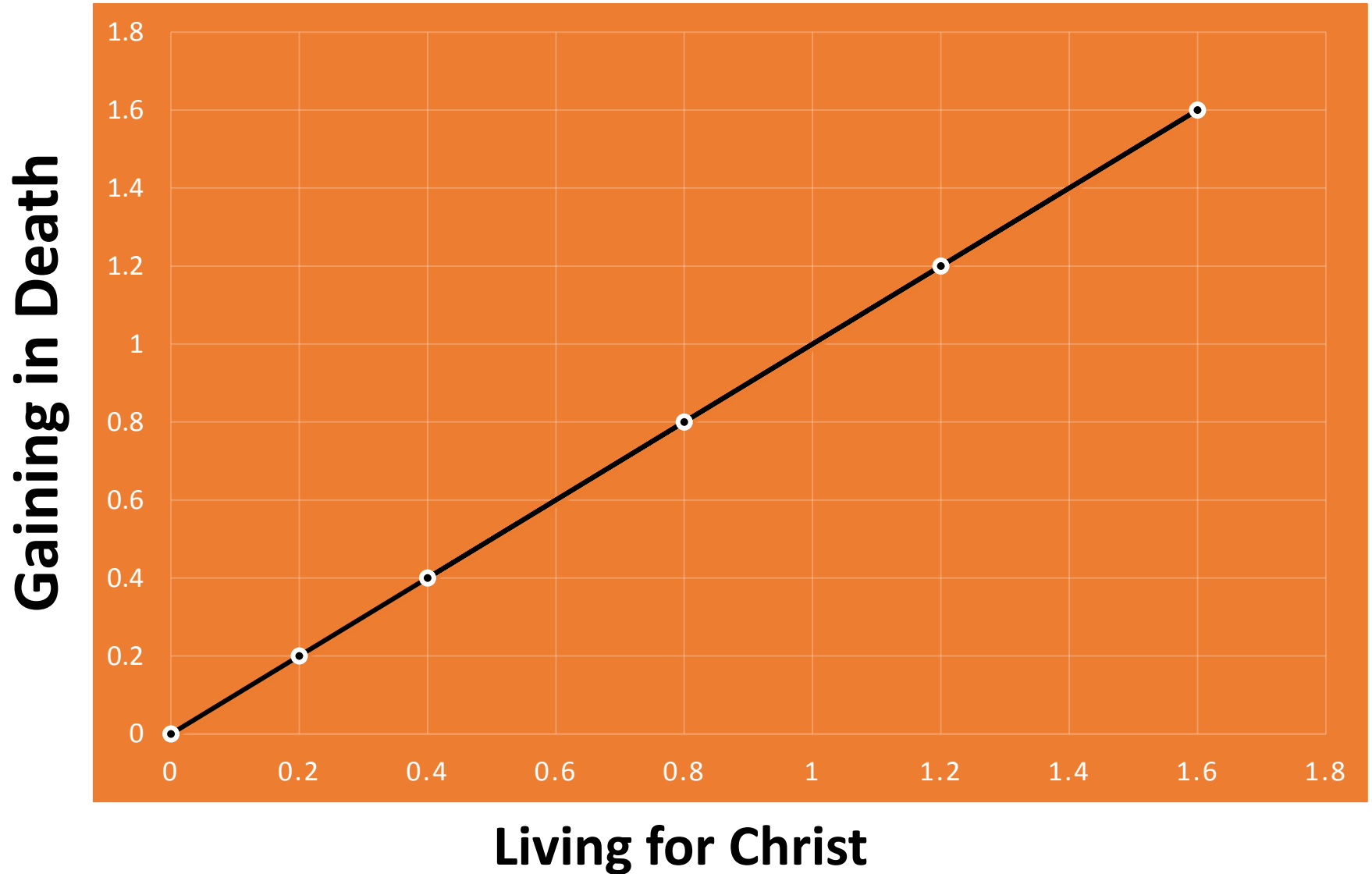
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# To Die is Gain

Requires an afterlife—  
Paul was positively  
convinced that life did not  
end when you die.



# I suspect





# Philippians 1:22

- But if I live in the flesh, this *is* the fruit of my labor: yet what I shall choose I know not.

ESV

- If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell.

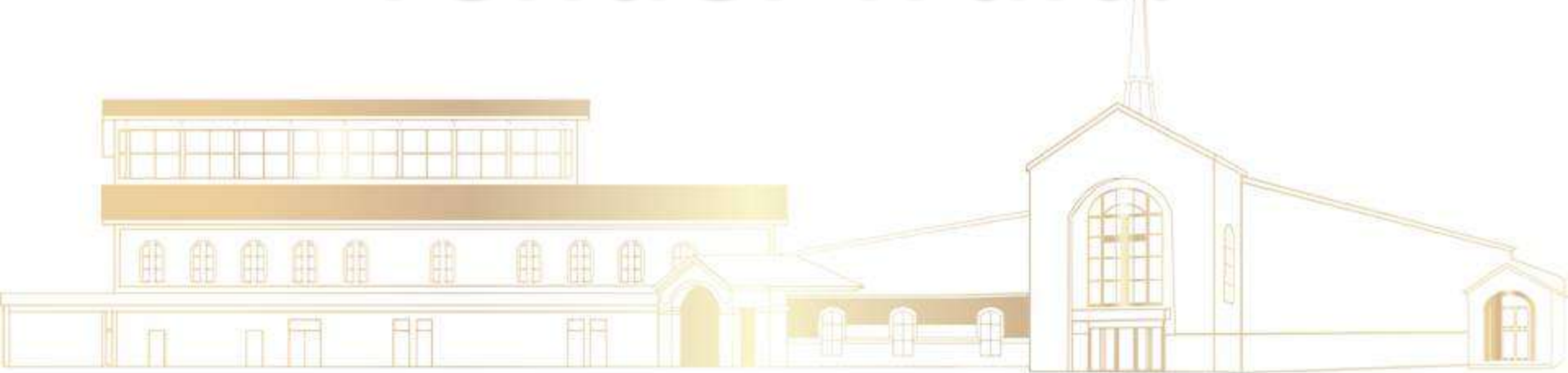
# Romans 1:13

Now I would not have you  
ignorant, brethren, that  
oftentimes I purposed to come  
unto you, (but was let hitherto,)  
**that I might have some fruit  
among you also,** even as  
among other Gentiles.



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**What will you do  
this week that will  
render fruit?**







# Philippians 1:22

**AV**

- yet what I shall choose I know not.

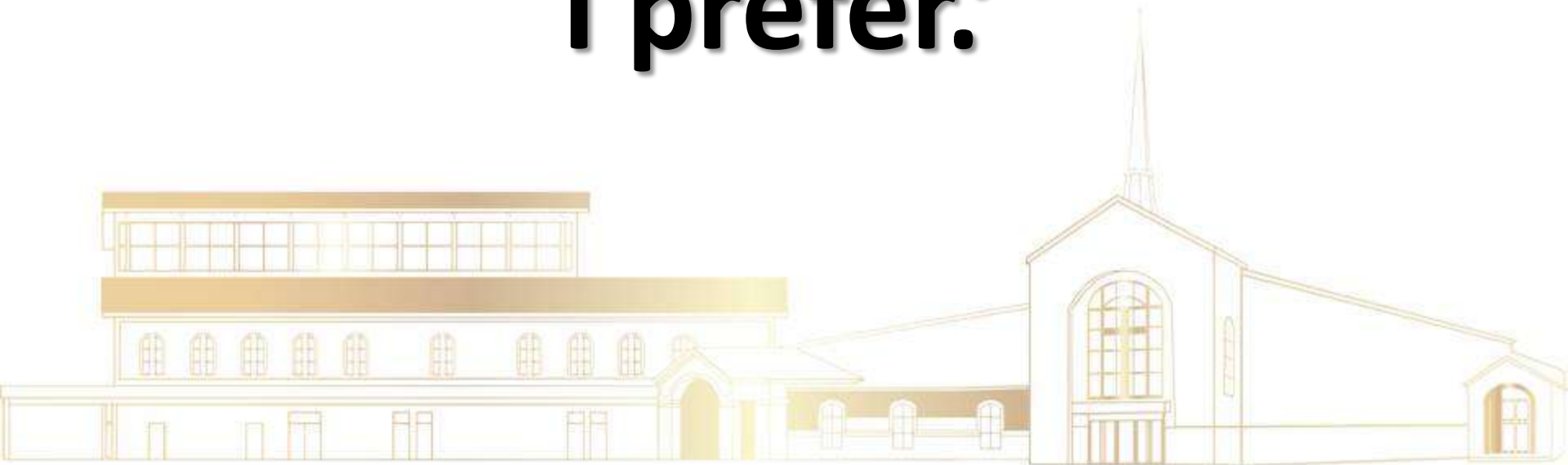
**ESV**

- Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell.

**What does Paul mean  
by what I shall choose I  
know not?**

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**The NET Bible renders it  
'yet I don't know which  
I prefer.'**





# Philippians 1:23

- For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart,
- and to be with Christ; which is far better:



# Philippians 1:24

- Nevertheless to abide in the flesh *is* more needful for you.

**It is only needful for you to remain here if you are making a difference in lives of others.**

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**Notice Paul does not  
prefer to stay here just  
for the sake of being  
alive.**





# Philippians 1:25

AV

- And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith;

ESV

- Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith,



# Philippians 1:26

ESV

- so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

NET

- so that what you can be proud of may increase because of me in Christ Jesus, when I come back to you.



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**What can we  
be proud of?**

