

***RCC Phoenix – 3.14.21 – Philippians (Week 5)***

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Philippians 1:20 NLT**

“For I fully expect and hope that I will never be ashamed, but that I will continue to be bold for Christ, as I have been in the past. And I trust that my life will bring honor to Christ, whether I live or die.”

*Expect*: I’m **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** on it.

*Hope*: I’m **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** it will happen.

Our western culture wants to “encourage” us to know “what you’re **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of” and to “know you were made for **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.”

Without Christ, these are **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** clichés.

Behavior change without Jesus is simply putting nice **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** on a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

When we do not believe in Christ, we are not just “bad”… we’re **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**!

Knowing we are capable of massive failures doesn’t make us unworthy of following Jesus. It’s a sign of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

Paul is showing the change in his heart from an **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** murderer to a humble **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of Jesus.

1. Torn Between **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Philippians 1:21-26 NLT**

“For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better. But if I live, I can do more fruitful work for Christ. So I really don’t know which is better. I’m torn between two desires: I long to go and be with Christ, which would be far better for me. But for your sakes, it is better that I continue to live. Knowing this, I am convinced that I will remain alive so I can continue to help all of you grow and experience the joy of your faith. And when I come to you again, you will have even more reason to take pride in Christ Jesus because of what he is doing through me.”

There is a war of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** going on inside every person.

Paul admits there is **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** in him. It would be much easier for him to die instead of enduring the hardships these worldly people are inflicting on him… beatings, imprisonment, oppression, etc. It also means he gets to be with his Savior in heaven.

But Paul sees the long term **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** to the Gospel and the evangelism of others for him to remain alive and preaching the Gospel.

Your current **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** are your future **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

1. Celebrate **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Wins

**Philippians 1:26 NLT**

“And when I come to you again, you will have even more reason to take pride in Christ Jesus because of what he is doing through me.”

We need to celebrate those who the Lord is using in **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** that are different than ours.

How many times have we **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** the wins of others for the Kingdom of God?

Notice what Paul does *NOT* say:

“…you will have even more reason to take pride in me because of what I’m doing for God.”

Paul continually takes the focus off of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and puts it on Jesus.

Who does Paul say people should take pride in: **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Who is doing the work in Paul’s life: **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Who is working through Paul’s obedience: **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

The answers to each of those questions is **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

When the Lord does something through us to further the Kingdom of God and His purpose, we should never take the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

Paul was not here to build the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of Paul.

Throughout the entire first chapter of Philippians, Paul addresses things that shape and mold our **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** more into the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of Jesus.

*Reflection Question:*

Is there any part of my heart that needs to be re-shaped to look like Christ?