

Mini-Series: Growing in Power

The Joy of Serving

Philippians 1:22-26

Introduction:

Fruitful Labor – is working or serving in ministry which produces a spiritual result. Producing something that lasts that is in fact eternal.

I. Living in the Flesh v.22a

- a. Paul is talking about being alive in his physical body
- b. Paul had died to the flesh when he accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior Gal 2:20

II. Fruitful Labor v.22b

- a. Paul wanted to continue to serve God and His Church long as he was in his body
- b. A true servant of God desires to serve until their final breath Psalm 71:17-18

III. God Desires a Committed Man or Woman v.23a

- a. Paul was torn between
 - i. Going to be with Jesus
 - ii. And staying to provide fruitful labor to the body of Christ

IV. Desiring to be with the Lord v.23b

- a. Paul loved Jesus Christ so much that he desired to be with Him
- b. It is far better than anything else
- c. Where Jesus is we shall be also John 12:26

Please Turn Over

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V. Esteeming the Needs of Others v.24

- a. Paul's personal desire was to be with Christ
- b. It's a godly man who doesn't let his personal desires surpass the needs of others Phil 2:4-5

VI. No Fruitful Labor in the Grave v.25a

- a. Paul's confidence had to have come from conviction of the Holy Spirit
- b. He spoke with a clarity God still had work for him to do Phil 2:24

VII. Joy in Serving v.25b

- a. Paul is confident he will not only live, but be released and walk with the Philippians once again.
- b. He desires to see them progress in the faith
- c. Grow spiritually and grow in joy in the faith
- d. The more you grow in Christ, the more joy you will experience Rom 15:13

VIII. Joy in Christ v.26

- a. Christ is the source of our joy
- b. When God delivers us we should magnify and glorify Him even more.