

Good News

From Getwell

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The Truth in Love
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SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY

SUNDAY

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:20 a.m.
Worship.....5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

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ON THE HOME FRONT

Psalm 12

- 1 Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men.
- 2 They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak.
- 3 The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things:
- 4 Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?
- 5 For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him.
- 6 The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.
- 7 Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.
- 8 The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted.

Ron Wallace

"TO DIE IS _____"

Paul wrote in Philippians 1:21 :

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

He also wrote in Galatians 2:20 :

"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I that live, but Christ that liveth in me: and that life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith which is in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself up for me."

Paul indicates that his philosophy of living was that the sum total of his life belonged to Christ: his time, strength, ability, body, soul and spirit. It was his complete surrender, dedication, commitment, and conversion to Christ that made him such a great Christian. The words, "*to me*" are emphatic, whatever the meaning of life may be to others. No finer portrayal of a soul that is truly surrendered to Christ can possibly be found than this.

Let's look carefully at the statement by Paul in Philippians 1:21. He says that to live is Christ, and to die is gain. Do you realize that to live for anything else, that is, with anything else as our goal, the result would not be the same? Notice if we change the wording just a bit:

"For to me to live is _____, and to die is _____."

"For to me to live is my job, and to die would be _____?" That is not so far-fetched is it? There are a lot of people who live for their job. It is the most important thing in their life, and to which they give most of their time. But what happens at death? Death would separate you from the most important thing in your life, and it would be loss, would it not?

"For to me to live is my recreation, and to die would be _____?" Lots of people do the same thing with their recreation that others do with their jobs. Every waking hour not spent on the job is given over to their recreation. They think about it all the time. But, what happens at death? You would be separated from that which you love the most, and it would be a loss.

"For to me to live is my family, and to die would be _____?" I have always tried to encourage people to spend more time with family. It is crucial that parents and children grow together and spend time together. But even if that were the goal of our life, when we die we would be separated from our families, and that would be a loss.

The only thing that fits the first blank that would lead to **gain** in death is **CHRIST!** Anything else would be loss, for death will separate you from everything in this life. Try to fill in the blank with anything else, and you will see. Parents, try playing this game while your driving in the car with the kids. It might stick in their minds for years to come. It did mine.

Of course, Paul, by inspiration, was correct: **"For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain."** Live for Christ, and you will gain, even in death!

Michael Wyatt

RON'S REMINDERS



Five Fingers of Prayer

The fingers on our hands can help us remember for whom to pray.

1. The thumb is nearest to us. Begin prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. Praying for loved ones is a sweet duty.
2. The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct, and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, ministers, and church elders. They need wisdom in pointing others in the right direction.
3. The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of secular leaders. Pray for our president and Congress, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion.
4. The fourth finger is the ring finger. It is the weakest finger, as any piano teacher will explain. This reminds us to pray for the weak, those in trouble, and in pain. They need prayers day and night.
5. Last comes the little finger, the smallest of all. This is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. The Bible says, "He who is least among you all will be great" (Luke 9:48).

Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective, and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

"I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men." 1 TIMOTHY 2:1