

SERMON OUTLINE

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Greater Progress of the Gospel

September 6, 2009

I. Introduction

- A. It is easy and natural to look at life from a selfish perspective.
- B. God calls us to change our perspective: **Philippians 2:3-4**

II. Focusing on the Progress of the Gospel

A. True Spiritual Growth

1. **Philippians 1:3-6** - God began a work that He is perfecting
2. Life is not meaningless, God is bringing us to a point

B. Community and Fellowship Together

1. **Philippians 1:7-8** - Participation = fellowship = working together to accomplish God's plan
2. This is why reaching the lost is so important for a church.

C. Living Outside Yourself

1. **Philippians 1:9-11** - Love abound, live for God and His praise
2. When we love we distinguish between a life of mediocrity and one that is excellent. We've learned the secret of life.

D. Living for a Cause

1. **Philippians 1:12-18** - Paul's suffering was furthering the "cause" of Christ. That was the most important thing.
2. Paul had a reason to get up. Something to plan for and that occupied his day and thoughts... the cause of Christ.

III. Finding the Right Perspective

A. Let God be Exalted in Your Body (Attitude)

1. **Philippians 1:19-21** - If I live or die – Jesus gets my life.
2. Decide: Today, I live for Christ!

B. Live for Them

1. **Philippians 1:22-26** - I CHOOSE to be with you.
2. Faced with the choice heaven or anything else, hard decision?
3. Life isn't about heaven (at least not to God) or else the minute we are saved and proven BOOM, we'd be in heaven. THERE IS MORE TO DO than simply get ME to heaven!

C. Rejoice in the Opportunities

1. **Philippians 1:27-30** - What a blessing! To you it has been granted to suffer!!! But this is a GOOD thing.
2. Look outside your world and into the lives of others.