

# ***Living Life to the Fullest!***

***Phil 1:21a (Topical Message)***



## ***So, few people live life to the fullest!***

### ***Why?***

(1) Fear of the unknown (2) Being Stuck in our Ways and Comfort Zones (3) Ignorance that Life can be lived to the fullest (4) Don't know the choice to make

**(Q)** As a Christian should we fear the unknown, remain in our comfort zones and just accept life as mundane and routine? The Answer is a resounding (No).

### ***Why?***

Because Christ is in us, and lives through us. ***This simple fact guarantees "Living Life to the Fullest"***. This simple fact makes for an exciting and victorious life that will never be mundane and routine. Is Christ mundane and routine? Well, Christ is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow, but how He expresses Himself through us, and His use of us is ***limitless! Because He is God!***

**Brothers & Sisters** – We have victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. We are Spiritually Alive, and the Power of Sin is broken. Christ is in us, and wants to Live and Express Himself through us.

***Living Life to the Fullest is guaranteed by belief in Jesus Christ!***

***But How?***

The key to living life to the fullest is believing one simple verse that Paul penned in Philippians 1:21a **“For to Me to Live Christ”**. So today, I want to look at this verse and unpack 3 steps to experience “Living Life to the Fullest” (Title of my message today)

**Steps:**

**Offering Oneself to Christ**

**Dependance on Christ**

**Overflow of Christ**

# **Philippians 1:21a (NASB)**

<sup>21</sup> For to me, to live is Christ

## What “For to me to live is Christ” is **NOT**

### **Serving Christ from Self**

So many Christians, including myself at one time thought that serving Christ, was living for Christ. In other words, if I wasn't serving, I wasn't living for Christ. As a new believer, I was told, now that you are saved, you need to serve in the church (Get to Work in Ministry – Really?). I served from my own resources in those early years (Dead Service). The question isn't that one serves as a Christian, it's the source of which that service comes from. If one's service is from self, and doesn't originate with Christ, *one deceptively thinks this is to me to live is Christ. But what it is is “For to Me to live is Me”.*

Do you see the difference? Serving is not wrong, but who is the originating source of that service?

Christ and the Spirit should be the source:

### **Romans 1:9 (NASB)**

<sup>9</sup> For God, whom I serve in my spirit in the *preaching of the* gospel of His Son, is my witness *as to* how unceasingly I make mention of you,

***For to Me to Live is Christ is NOT serving from Self!***

## What “For to me to live is Christ” is **NOT**

### **Trying to Be Christlike**

Back in the 90’s I remember there was a bracelet many Christians wore that had the acronym of it of WWJD (What Would Jesus Do). It was supposed to be a reminder on how to live as a Christian. Analyze your behavior and see if it matches up to WWJD. That is fine, but does this work? Is this the way to live the Christian life. Asking yourself WWJD, and do what Jesus would do?

This approach is attempting to modify the external, without any change in the internal (Mind, Will & Emotions). This is like the Law. It defines and diagnosis sinful behaviors, but is not the tool to change sinful behavior. WWJD in a sense is Christian Law.

### **Philippians 1:6 (NASB)**

<sup>6</sup> *For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.*

God is the initiator of one’s growth from the inside out, not from the outside in (WWJD).

***For to Me to Live is Christ is not attempting to be Christ Like!***

What “For to me to live is Christ” is **NOT**

## **Christ Helping Ones Self-Effort**

There is nothing wrong with asking Christ for help in prayer. But Christ will never help your self-effort, or fleshly choices. Christ doesn't want to be our helper, but our life.

**James 4:15 (GW)**

<sup>15</sup> Instead, you should say, “If the Lord wants us to, we will live and carry out our plans.”

***For to Me to Live is Christ is not Christ Helping One's Self Effort***

## Step: 1 - Offering Oneself to Christ

### Romans 6:13 (HCSB)

<sup>13</sup> And do not offer any parts of it to sin as weapons for unrighteousness. But as those who are alive from the dead, offer yourselves to God, and all the parts of yourselves to God as weapons for righteousness.

*Offer, Yield, Give Oneself or Present is the word used here in different translations.*

For to me to live is Christ and to live life to the fullest, the Christian must 1<sup>st</sup> offer himself to God (Christ).

This is saying God, I give myself to you to do what you want with me. I offer myself to you to be molded, taught, and used by You. I give the control of my life to you. I am alive from the dead, and righteous. Do what you want in me, and through me. **Wow!** Have you ever said that to God?

This is the basic 1<sup>st</sup> step in living life to the fullest. It's not offering yourself to things of the world, but to God as alive from the dead ready to be molded, taught and used by Him. If one doesn't offer himself to God, then He is offering Himself to something other than God, thus saying in a sense

*For To Me to live is Me*

**Brothers & Sisters** – Either is all about Christ or its all about me, myself and I. Godly **joys, excitements, fulfillments, pleasures,** and **delights** of life starts with offering oneself to God. Amen!

For to me to live is offering myself to my desires, or offering myself to Christ's desires for me.

*Let Go of your life, and offer your life to God!*

For to Me to Live is Christ starts with offering  
oneself to Christ!

*Are you offering yourself to Christ?*

*What's holding you back from doing so?*

## Step 2 - Dependence on Christ

After one offers himself to Christ, he then rests, waits and depends on Christ to work in his life.  
Amen!

### **Proverbs 3:5 (NASB)**

<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding.

### **2 Corinthians 1:9 (NASB)**

<sup>9</sup> indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead;

For To Me To Live is Christ is offering oneself and depending on Christ. Amen!

Christ is the one source of dependence, trust and faith in all things Amen!

Sometimes the wait is short, sometimes the wait is long (It's In God's Timing) – Amen!

**Brothers & Sisters** – Either you're depending on Christ or you're depending on something else.

Godly **joys, excitements, fulfillments, pleasures**, and the **delights** of life can only move forward with dependence on Christ as one's life. Amen!

For to Me to Live is Christ continues with  
dependance Christ!

*Are you depending on Christ?*

*What's holding you back from doing so?*

## Step 3 - Overflow of Christ

### John 4:14 (NASB)

<sup>14</sup> but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."

The decision to offer and depend on Christ as one's life is the foundation for Christ to work in you, and flow through you to the outside world. Consistency in offering and dependance on Christ equates to consistency in Christ overflowing through you. This overflow is expressing Christ. Since Christ is infinite, how He overflows and expresses Himself through a person is also infinite:

**In John 4:14** – Jesus tells the woman at the well that she will never thirst again if she receives the water He gives (Belief in Him). The result will be a well of water springing up to eternal life (His Life in Her).

The imagery here is that water springing up and overflowing through her! Amen! The *ultimate expression* of Christ in a person who offers and depends on Christ is Christ's Agape Love flowing a person:

### 1 John 4:19 (NASB)

<sup>19</sup> We love, because He first loved us.

Christ loves us, and He Loves through us. Amen!

For to Me to Live is Christ ends with the  
overflow of Christ!

*Are you overflowing with Christ?*

*What's holding you back from doing so?*

***For to Me to Live is Christ***

***Or***

***For to Me to Live is Me***

***What's Your Choice?***



***Living Life to the Fullest!***

***Offering Yourself to Christ***

***Dependence on Christ***

***Overflow of Christ***

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