

How To Have A “Good Death”

Philippians 1:21-23

(Pew Bible p. 1175)

Part of a pastor’s job is to prepare people for a good death.

Paul’s mention of *death* at the end of Philippians 1:20 introduces what *begins* for the believer at physical death:

For the believer, death is the *beginning* of:

1. gain, 1:21 [“_____,” Lk 23:43]

2. with Christ, 1:23 [“_____,” 1 Cor 13:12]

3. very much better, 1:23 [“_____,” 2 Cor. 5:8]

Remember what is *beginning*, not just ending.

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*Death for the Christian is not a period at the end of the sentence of life,
it is a conjunction – a connector between this life and the life to come.*

Next week – 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

Small Group Follow Through Guide

How To Have A “Good Death”

Philippians 1:21-23

**SUGGESTED DISCUSSION POINTS FROM
FEBRUARY 4, 2018 SERMON**

1. Discuss the various attitudes towards death that circulate in our culture.
2. How is Paul's commitment of Phil. 1:20 foundational to his positive perspective regarding death in Phil. 1:21-23? How can we have more of his perspective and commitment of 1:20?
3. Read again Phil. 1:21 noting the word “gain” and Phil. 1:23 noting the words “very much better.” What are additional ways these are true for the believer in Jesus?
4. How does Paul's personal testimony in 2 Timothy 4:6-8 contribute to this study?
5. Since *The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing*, how would you verbalize *the main thing* of this sermon?
6. Bible truth is both for *living* and for *sharing*.
Living: How will your life be different as a result of this?
Sharing: How/with whom can you share this?
7. What other Bible verses strengthen your hope when you think about death?
8. What remaining questions, comments or insights do you have to share with your group?
9. Spend the closing minutes praying about this for yourself, for someone else, and for the VBC Congregation.