

29 July 2018: Preached by Preacher Ko Ling Kang

Topic: Gospel Worship Service: Death or Life?

Scripture text: Philippians 1:21-26

- God is the giver of life and He is also sovereign over our deaths. Apostle Paul teaches us the right biblical perspectives of life and death according to God's Word. Paul's life was about glorifying the Lord Jesus Christ and he looked forward to death in hope. Paul only cared about magnifying Christ in his body whether in life or death (verse 21).
- For believers, death signifies being with Christ for eternity. Paul had two views about death. Firstly, he regarded it as a happy dilemma because he could not choose between a life of service for the Lord on earth or seeing Christ face to face in Heaven. Secondly, he saw death as a hopeful departure from this body which is prone to sin, thus causing him to have an imperfect fellowship with Christ. He looked forward to be with the Lord because he believed the Gospel and Christ's work of salvation for him. Believers must not be fearful or uncertain of death (verse 22-23).
- Paul regarded life as a life of service for the Lord towards fellow believers. The only reason why he would like to remain on this earth was because he wanted to witness for the Lord and to edify the saints. He wanted them to experience the true joy that comes by believing in the Lord Jesus Christ. Likewise, we should use our lives to serve the Lord and build one another up in the faith (verse 24-26).