

# Lesson 3: Life and Death

## Scripture Song: Rejoice always – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, Philippians 4:6

### **A. A desire for Christ to be magnified**

1. What did the Apostle Paul desire to happen during his imprisonment in Rome? Philippians 1:19-20
2. What were some other hardships the Apostle Paul had already experienced as a follower of Christ? 2 Corinthians 11:23-27
3. What were some ways Christ was magnified during Paul's imprisonment in Rome? Philippians 1:12-13,14, Philemon 10, etc.
4. What are some ways Christ can be magnified in our lives today, even in times of trial and hardship?

### **B. Freedom from fear of death**

1. Philippians 1:21 What did the Apostle Paul mean when he said, "to die is gain"?
2. Why does Satan view death as one of his greatest weapons? John 8:44, Hebrews 2:14, etc.
3. What promises of Jesus remind us that we do not need to fear death? Luke 11:32, John 11:25, 6:39-40

### **C. A desire to depart and be with Christ**

1. Philippians 1:22-24 What did it mean for the Apostle Paul to depart and be with Christ?
2. How does the inspired teaching of Paul to Christians in Thessalonica help us to understand what happens when we die? 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
3. What is the next conscious thought for the Christian who falls asleep in death? John 11:11-14,38-43, 6:28-29
4. Why is the length of time we sleep in the grave insignificant for the Christian?

### **D. Living for Christ every day**

1. Philippians 1:24-26 Why was the Apostle Paul content to "remain in the flesh"?
2. Philippians 1:27 How does the appeal of Paul to Christians in Philippi relate to our lives today?
3. What is the difference between living a life "worthy of the gospel" and living a life so we can be worthy of salvation?
4. The Apostle Paul anticipated that the Philippians believers would suffer persecution. (Philippians 1:29) Is suffering persecution inevitable for followers of Jesus? 2 Timothy 3:12, Matthew 5:10
5. How can we maintain joy in the Lord even when we are experiencing persecution? Luke 6:22-23
6. What lessons can we learn from followers of Jesus who have experienced persecution? Stephen, Peter, Paul, etc.