

1 **Worst-Case Scenario?**2

In his chains, the Apostle Paul was confident and even joyful that he would be delivered and that he would honor Christ in his life or in his death.

What would enable him?

Their *prayers* and the *Spirit of Christ*

3 **How are we to face Life, Suffering and Death?**

Just like the Apostle Paul...
with purpose and with joy,
empowered by the Spirit

4 **Suffering**

- Suffering that comes with the territory of a fallen world
- Suffering that comes from following Christ (Phil 1:29-30)
 - Persecution
 - Temptation
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- It is not for nothing. It helps us to grow and mature
 - 1 Peter 1:6-7
 - 1 Peter 5:10

5 **Suffering**

- It is just for a little while
 - 2 Cor 4:17-18
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- He gives us the grace and strength to endure
 - 2 Cor 12:7-10
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6 **Death**

- The One we serve defeated death
 - "O, Death, where is your sting?" (1 Cor 15:55-56)
 - "I hold the keys to death and hades" (Rev 1:18)
 - "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25)
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- To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord (2 Cor 5:8)
 - Precious in His sight is the death of His saints (Ps 116:15)
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7 **Life**

- Looking forward to the end of the game...

But not running out the clock

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- The same power that raised Jesus from the dead lives in you (Romans 8:11)

- While we remain, we live. On purpose.
 - To be used in the lives of others; for the sake of the gospel; unified with the church; unafraid; as His witnesses (Phil 1:27-28)
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8 **So, believer, walk worthy**

Is the way that I'm facing suffering and death indicative of my position in Christ?

Could the way that I'm living be done without the power of the Spirit?

Church, we must live like we know who we are and whose we are

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