

Pastor Shawn

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# **Every Circumstance Creates Opportunity**

Philippians 1:12-26

"...everything that has happened to me here **has helped to spread the Good News**. For everyone here, including the whole palace guard knows that I am in chains because of Christ. And because of my imprisonment, most of the believers here have gained confidence and boldly speak God's message without fear. It's true that some are preaching out of jealousy and rivalry. But others preach about Christ with pure motives... Whether their motives are false or genuine, the message about Christ is being preached either way, **so I rejoice**.

I trust that my life will bring honor to Christ, whether I live or die. For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better. But if I live, I can do more fruitful work for Christ. So, I really don't know which is better. I'm torn between two desires: I long to go and be with Christ, which would be far better for me. But for your sakes, it is better that I continue to live... I am convinced that I will remain alive so I can continue to help all of you grow and experience the joy of your faith" Philippians 1:12-26

## Reframe Challenges: "everything... has helped to spread the Good News" vs. 12

"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them." Romans 8:28

- Opportunity for sharing good news
- Opportunity to encouraging and grow other believers.
- Opportunity to demonstrate the power of God and display His glory

What difficult situation are you facing right now?

- How could God use it to advance the message of the gospel?
- How can you encourage someone's faith because of your unique circumstances?

## Reframe your perspective on living: "For me to live is Christ and to die is gain" vs 21

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me" Galatians 2:20

"...whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God" 1 Corinthians 10:31

### Surrender your life and adjust your agenda to Kingdom purposes

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us"  $\,$ 

2 Corinthians 5:20

### • Focus on living for eternity

"Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth." Colossians 3:1-2



What is my life centered on? How can I align my life with Jesus' mission.

What drives your life? Is it career, comfort, or Christ?

How can you live with eternity in mind? What legacy of faith will you leave?

Every circumstance creates a new opportunity to share the message of the gospel and demonstrate our faith to others.