

# STRONGMEN AND Legacy Makers

Apostle Paul: How To Live Out Why We Are Really Here...Acts 21:15-26

*"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." ...Philippians 4:8*

## Was Paul just another hypocritical Christian?

Acts 21:15-26, 1 Corinthians 9:20, Romans 9:1-3, 14:4-6

Paul's decision making:

- If we can see life through the lens of the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, everything else will fall into place.
- Gospel: Jesus is either Lord \_\_\_\_\_ or not Lord \_\_\_\_\_.
- Eternity: We were created to \_\_\_\_\_, and what we do with the \_\_\_\_\_ in this life determines where we spend our eternity.

## Finding our aim?

Acts 20:24, Galatians 5:22-23, Philippians 4:4-8

My decision making... for what it's worth:

- I know I've crossed the line when I put:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ point ahead of \_\_\_\_\_ people.
  - winning the \_\_\_\_\_ ahead of winning \_\_\_\_\_.
  - my \_\_\_\_\_ ahead of their \_\_\_\_\_.
  - my \_\_\_\_\_ ahead of my \_\_\_\_\_.
- I know the enemy is winning when my \_\_\_\_\_ rob me of my \_\_\_\_\_.
- How many Christians right now are walking in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_?
- Philippians 4:4-8... Finally, my brothers and sisters...

From the Word

# Group Discussion

1. The enemy wants to do all he can to distort how we live out who we are and how we define success. He wants to keep us “off aim” so we miss how God wants to work in us and through us in whatever circumstances we find ourselves. As we heard in this message, the Apostle Paul helped the Philippians “keep their aim” in the midst of life’s challenges.

READ Philippians 4:4-8, and circle three things that catch your attention and will help you “find your aim” in 2021.

**Philippians 4:4-8 (NIV)...**

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

<sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

<sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

<sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

2. As followers of Jesus, the Holy Spirit is changing us from the inside out. Galatians 5:22-23 reveals to us the fruit of the Spirit.

As you read over the list, can you identify any that you have experienced God cultivating in your life? Are there one or more that you find more challenging than others?

**Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV)**

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

<sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

3. Describe anything that you have learned from this message and/or discussion that you can apply to your life today...

# Prayer

Take a few moments to share any Prayer Requests with the men in your Group. Write down any requests and commit to pray for one another throughout the week.

*(It's great to know that other guys are praying for the important things in your life...and it's great to be praying for the important things in their lives!)*

How do the **5 Principles for the Christian Man**, help equip you to apply this to your life?

*Discuss your answer with your group...*

- Prayer (*Relationship*)
- God's Word (*Knowledge and Understanding*)
- Worship (*Adoration*)
- Fellowship (*Encouragement and Accountability*)
- Service (*Caring for Others, Action to your Belief*)