

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Perth**  
**Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**  
**Worship Leader: Rev. Stephen Dunkin**

**Call to Worship**

Great and marvelous are your works,  
 Lord God Almighty!

**Just and true are your ways,  
 O King of the nations.**

Who will not fear you, O Lord, and glorify your name?

**You alone are holy.**

**All the earth will come and worship before you,  
 for your righteous deeds have been revealed  
 for all to see.**

Come, let us worship him.

For Christ our Lord has risen from the Dead  
 and Is alive forever more.

**Responsive Prayer of Invocation**

Let us join our voices to praise the spotless Lamb, Jesus Christ,  
 who has redeemed us from sin and death.

**We, whom he has redeemed,  
 will sing praises and shout for joy this hour;**

because in Christ the Lamb we have redemption through his blood,  
 the forgiveness of our sins in accordance with the riches of his grace.

**Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law  
 by becoming a curse for us.**

Let us praise him by saying:

**Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,  
 to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength  
 and honor and glory and praise!**

**To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb  
 we give worship this hour and forever and ever. Amen.**

**Hymn #274: "Crown Him With Many Crowns"**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7vo1rh6MJI>

1. Crown Him with many crowns  
 The Lamb upon His throne  
 Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns

All music but its own  
 Awake my soul and sing  
 Of Him who died to be  
 Your Saviour and your matchless King  
 Thro' all eternity

2. Crown Him the Son of God  
 Before the worlds began  
 Let all who tread where he has trod  
 Crown him the Son of Man  
 Who every grief has known  
 That wrings the human breast  
 And takes and bears them for his own  
 That all in him may rest
  
3. Crown Him the Lord of life  
 Who triumphed o'er the grave  
 Who rose victorious in the strife  
 For those He came to save  
 His glories now we sing  
 Who died and rose on high  
 Who died eternal life to bring  
 And lives that death may die
  
4. Crown him the Lord of peace  
 Whose Kingdom is at hand  
 From pole to pole let warfare cease  
 And Christ rule every land  
 A city stands on high  
 Christ's glory it displays,  
 And there the nations "Holy" cry  
 In joyful hymns of praise
  
5. Crown Him the Lord of years  
 the Source the End of time  
 Creator of the rolling spheres  
 In majesty sublime  
 All hail, Redeemer hail  
 For you have died for me  
 Your praise shall never, never fail  
 Through all eternity

### **Invitation to Confession**

**1 Corinthians 11:27** So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. **28** Everyone ought to examine themselves before

**they eat of the bread and drink from the cup. 29 For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves.**

Let us examine our hearts and lives before the Lord our God.

### **Responsive Prayer of Confession**

God of grace,  
 we confess that we have elevated  
 the things of this world above you.  
 We have made idols of possessions and people  
 and used your name for causes  
 that are not consistent with you and your purposes.  
 We have permitted our schedules to come first  
 and have not taken the time to worship you.  
 We have not always honored those who guided us in life.  
 We have participated in systems  
 that take life instead of give it.  
 We have been unfaithful in our covenant relationships.  
 We have yearned for, and sometimes taken, that which is not ours,  
 and we have misrepresented others' intentions.

**Forgive us, O God,  
 for the many ways we fall short of your glory.  
 Help us to learn to live together according to your ways  
 through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

This is the message we have heard from God  
 and proclaim to you,  
 that God is light and in God there is no darkness at all.  
 If we walk in the light, as God is in the light,  
 we have fellowship with one another,  
 and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
 Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread.  
 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the Evil One.  
 For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory,**

**Forever and ever. Amen**

**Responsive Reading: Psalm 91**

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

**I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress,  
my God, in whom I trust."**

Surely he will save you  
from the fowler's snare  
and from the deadly pestilence.

**He will cover you with his feathers,  
and under his wings you will find refuge;  
his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.**

You will not fear the terror of night,  
nor the arrow that flies by day,  
**nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness,  
nor the plague that destroys at midday.**

A thousand may fall at your side,  
ten thousand at your right hand,  
but it will not come near you.

**You will only observe with your eyes  
and see the punishment of the wicked.**

If you say, "The LORD is my refuge,"  
and you make the Most High your dwelling,  
**no harm will overtake you,  
no disaster will come near your tent.**

For he will command his angels concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways;  
**they will lift you up in their hands,  
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.**

You will tread on the lion and the cobra;  
you will trample the great lion and the serpent.

**"Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him;  
I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.**

He will call on me, and I will answer him;  
I will be with him in trouble,  
I will deliver him and honor him.

**With long life I will satisfy him  
and show him my salvation."**

## Ministry of Music                      All Hail The Power of Jesus Name (Tune: Diadem)

(Click on the link below to play the hymn. Words are on the screen.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5WVSyGBBfi8>

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name  
     Let angels prostrate fall  
     Let angels prostrate fall  
     Bring forth the royal diadem  
     And crown----- Him  
     Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him  
     And crown Him Lord of all
  
2. Ye seed of Israel's chosen race  
     Ye ransomed of the fall  
     Ye ransomed of the fall  
     Hail Him who saves you by His grace  
     And crown----- Him  
     Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him  
     And crown Him Lord of all
  
3. Let every kindred, ev'ry tribe  
     On this terrestrial ball  
     On this terrestrial ball  
     To him all majesty ascribe  
     And crown----- Him  
     Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him  
     And crown Him Lord of all
  
4. O that with yonder sacred throng  
     We at his feet may fall  
     We at his feet may fall  
     We'll join the everlasting song  
     And crown----- Him  
     Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him  
     And crown Him Lord of all

### **Responsive Invitation to the Offering**

Give to the Lord the glory due his name;  
bring an offering and come before him.

**We will sacrifice a thank offering to God  
and call on the name of the Lord.**

**We will fulfill our vows to the Lord,  
in the presence of all God's people.**

Let each of us use whatever gift we have received,  
faithfully sharing God's grace in many forms.

**Freely we have received; freely we will give.**

### **Offertory Prayer**

O Lord our God, the author and giver of all good things,  
 we thank you for all your mercies,  
 and for your loving care over all your creatures.  
 We bless you for the gift of life, for your protection round about us,  
 for your guiding hand upon us,  
 and for the tokens of your love within us.  
 In all these things, O heavenly God,  
 make us wise for a right use of your benefits,  
 that we may render an acceptable thanksgiving unto you  
 all the days of our lives,  
 through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Scripture Reading:**

**Philippians 1:12-18a**

#### ***The Advance of the Gospel***

**12** I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, **13** so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. **14** And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

**15** Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. **16** The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. **17** The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. **18** What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Prayer of Illumination**

God of Jesus Christ,  
 give us a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Christ,  
 so that the eyes of our hearts might be enlightened.  
 Help us to know the hope to which you have called us,  
 the riches of the glorious inheritance in the saints,

and the immeasurable greatness of your power at work in us.  
Through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**



## “How A Pandemic Advances The Gospel” Philippians 1:12-18a

This present pandemic has played havoc with almost every sector of our society and the Christian church has been no exception. We are all aware that churches were closed after the lockdown in March. Most are open again now, but with limited capacity to operate. It is going to be very interesting to see what the statistics for 2020 look like when we

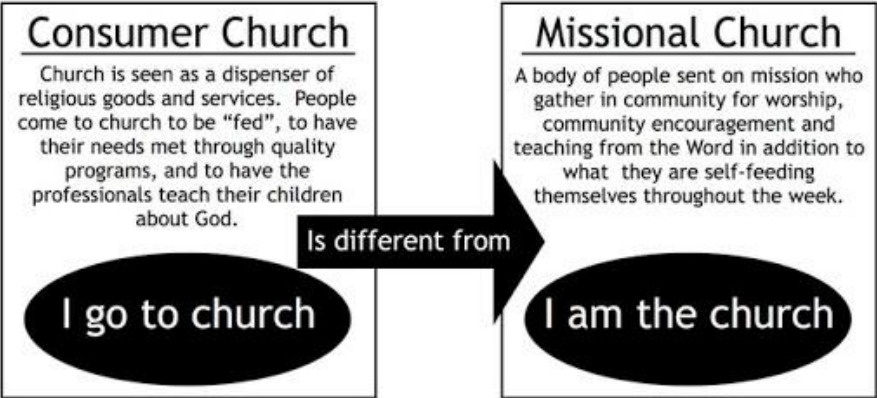
are preparing for our annual reports come January, but we already know that everything will be down. Average attendance will be down, offerings will be down, Sunday schools (if they are open at all) will be just a fraction of their former size and many other groups are not functioning. Some wonder if churches will ever come back to what they were before the pandemic started and we have to remember that many churches were not in great shape in the first place. Some will not survive.

The question is: “Are things as bleak as they appear?” Will the long term result be that churches are irreparably harmed by the pandemic? I guess that will depend on the individual church, but the truth is that difficult times really only present the Church of Jesus Christ with the opportunity to advance the gospel. This is the witness of church history.

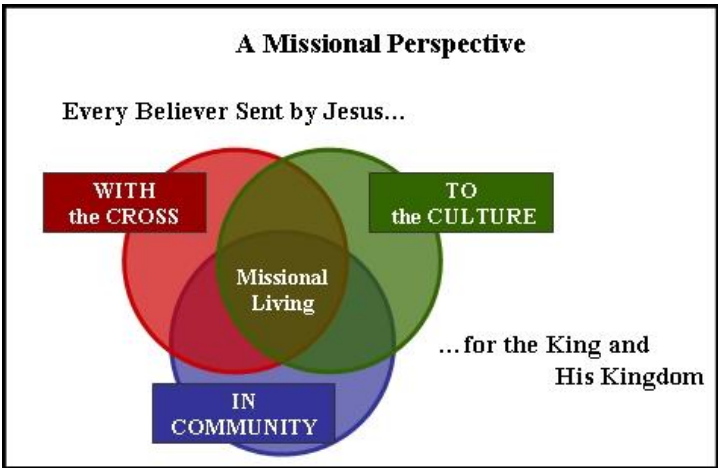
The apostle Paul was in prison when he penned the letter to the Philippians. Not one of us would conclude that prison is a great place from which to conduct an evangelistic campaign. St. Andrew’s is in the midst of searching for our next minister and if the Search Committee were to receive an application from an inmate in a federal or provincial prison, I doubt that they would be given much consideration. Yet Paul writes: **12 I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel.** How can being in prison serve to advance the gospel?

Before we answer that question, I want to make sure you understand exactly what the “gospel” is. Philippians is a short book – only four chapters long and in its few short pages Paul uses the word “gospel” nine times. And here is what he means when he uses this word. By the “gospel” he means the preaching of Christ. The preaching of Christ focuses on his death, resurrection and present Lordship. It does not focus on the results but rather on the proclamation of the facts. If the church does not preach about the death, resurrection and Lordship of Jesus, then it is not proclaiming the gospel, no matter how many other wonderful things it does.

The buzz word around churches in recent years has been the word “missional”. I have heard it said that churches have to be “missional” if they are going to be able to engage in a meaningful way with our culture. Those within the movement say that there are



basically two types of churches. There are “attractional” churches (sometimes referred to as “consumer” churches) that try to attract people to the church through programs. “Missional” churches go out into the community and its members live “missionally”. Put very simple, what is being said is this: “Churches should not expect people to come to them. We need to be going out into the community to meet people on their own turf.” If we live “missionally”, then people will be able to see the true church rather being attracted to a program.



When I was minister of Graceview Presbyterian Church in Etobicoke I went to seminars on creating missional churches and I read books on missional churches. There was a lot of emphasis coming out of the offices of our national church about being “missional” and a lot of talk about it in Presbytery. This diagram supposedly shows what the “missional” perspective is all about. Notice the three different coloured circles. It says that:

**“Every Believer Sent By Jesus:**



- **With the Cross**
- **To the Culture**
- **In Community**

**for the King and His Kingdom.”** Where these three circles overlap is apparently a sweet spot called “Missional Living”. Supposedly that is where every church should want to end up. Sounds really good but I must say that I found it all very confusing. Why? Because the more I heard about “missional living”, the less I heard about the Gospel. Now, I may have missed the boat completely. Maybe I am just an old man who can’t get with the new program, but in my mind, preaching the Gospel is what it is all about. Seeing men and women come to faith in Jesus Christ is the reason for our being. From what I could see, this new approach was a lot of talk, but one thing it never talked about was people coming to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour of their lives.

Getting back to our text, Paul’s claim is that his imprisonment in Rome has served to advance the gospel. It has given him unprecedented opportunities to proclaim the death, resurrection and Lordship of Jesus. In the six verses we are looking at today, he tells us about the **12 advance the gospel**. He speaks of **16 ... the defense of the gospel**. He also used synonymous phrases like:

**14 ... more bold to speak the word without fear.**

**15 ... preach Christ.**

**17 ... proclaim Christ.**

Everything in this man’s life was focused on advancing the gospel. It was his overriding passion. If you don’t understand that, then you will never understand Paul. And if you don’t understand Paul, then you will miss the wealth that is to be found in mining the Epistles of the New Testament.

Let’s return to Paul’s claim in verse: **12 I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel**. The context here is that Paul is in prison. This is hardly what you would consider a good pulpit for proclaiming the Gospel and yet he claims that it has really served to advance the gospel. How can that be? It is not like he is locked in a room with 50 or 100 other prisoners and is free to talk to them. As we read on: **13 so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ**. A proper translation of this verse would



refer, not to the “imperial guard” or the “palace guard” as it says in some translations, but to ***the whole praetorium***. The Imperial Guard or Praetorium consisted of 9,000 handpicked soldiers who were honoured with double pay, good pensions and special duties. To say that a man was in the Praetorium was like saying: “That guy is a Navy Seal.” This was an elite group within the Roman Army. Among their not-so-special duties was being chained to imperial prisoners. So every shift Paul would have been shackled to two different praetorians. I expect that he was chained to only a few of these 9,000 soldiers, but the gospel had an effect. On the one hand, Paul had a captive audience 24/7. Every shift he had a new opportunity to tell two soldiers about Jesus. Not only that, those praetorians would have to listen to every conversation that Paul had with whoever came to visit him. They would have heard him tell the incredible story of the long awaited Jewish Messiah who was crucified just as it was predicted centuries before. They would have heard how through the death and resurrection of Jesus we can have forgiveness for all our sins.



The Praetorian Guard – the imperial guard – the palace guard – was at the very centre of secular political power in Rome. Was it effective for advancing the gospel? We don’t know how effective it was, but we do know that the name of Christ was known throughout the guard and beyond. In fact when Paul closes off his letter in chapter 4, he says:

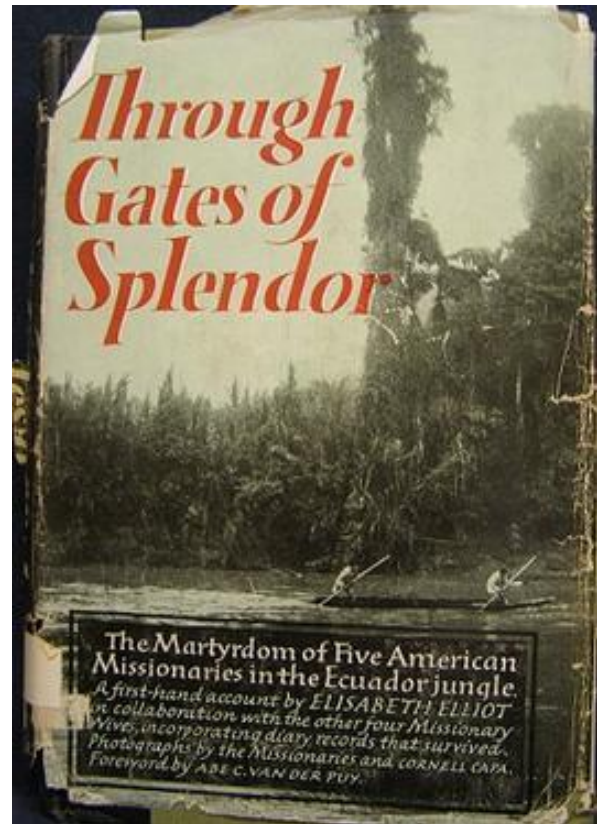
**21 Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you. 22 All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar’s household.** The message of the gospel spread throughout even Caesar’s household and the Praetorian Guard because one man was not afraid to speak about Jesus.

The gospel advanced among the pagan Romans, but it also advanced among the Christians as well. Paul writes: **14 And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.** We have already answered the question about how prison can advance the gospel, but it is still puzzling. How can something which hinders produce help for the gospel? How can imprisonment and chains produce freedom for the gospel? Because apparently, Paul’s imprisonment and chains rendered some others ... **much more bold to speak the word without fear.**

In 1957 Elizabeth Elliott's book "**Through Gates of Splendor**" was published. It became a must read for any Christian family that was supportive of the great missionary movement of those days. It told the story of Operation Acua – the attempt of five young American missionaries to take the Gospel to a remote and unreached people group in the Ecuadorian Jungle. When the men failed to make radio contact with their home base (which was basically manned by their wives),



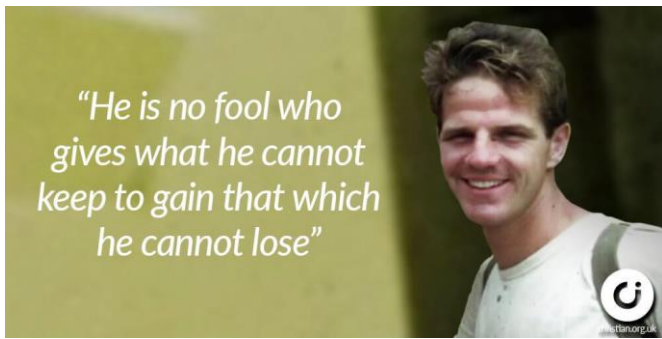
men's camera that was recovered with his body, showed them making initial contact. One of the pictures was of the five wives sitting around a table at their remote outpost waiting for word of their husbands. This next picture remains indelibly imprinted in my mind. I don't have to look at it on the web for it to rise up in my mind. Roger Youderian's body, a spear protruding from his right hip, is being towed to the burial site. Elizabeth Elliott's husband Jim wrote several things in his journal which have lived with power after his short life. Like



a search party was sent out – men carrying guns along with a Life Magazine reporter. I don't expect that I read the book in those days, but I certainly looked at the pictures. Some of those pictures, taken with one of the



A BROKEN SPEAR protrudes from right hip of Roger Youderian's body as it is dragged behind Indian canoe to burial site. Another spear was pulled from his back before body was moved. Aucas had also used machetes on some victims.



*“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose”*

this one: **When the time comes to die, make sure that all you have to do is die.** However the best known quote from his journal is this: **He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose.** Five young lives snuffed out on a beach deep in the heart of the Ecuadorian Jungle still continue to speak

today and call new generations to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Because of what happened to Paul and because of his attitude to it, the church in Rome experienced a revival. New Christians were added to its number and some of the more mature Christians were revitalized. You would think that if the Roman Christians had any brains, they would have run the other way. “If that is what it costs to be a Christian, then I am out of here!” Paul makes it very clear: **“my imprisonment is for Christ”!** This caused the confidence of most of the other Christians to go up. They became **more bold** and **less fearful**. It gave them the courage to **proclaim Christ**.

This is the exact opposite of what happened when Jesus was arrested. The 11 disciples fled because they were afraid! Peter denied Jesus three times. Even this nameless youth in Mark 14 fled. Isn't that what happens when your Leader is thrown in jail? No, something happened after the death and resurrection of Jesus. The Holy Spirit came and fell upon the disciples. These men and women had not just accepted Jesus. They had received the Holy Spirit when they believed. Now in the midst of some very scary circumstances, they were empowered by the Holy Spirit. As a result, they spoke the Word of God more boldly and without fear.



Oftentimes we cannot figure out what motives a person, because we can't get inside that person's head. Show us how a person really thinks and then we are in a much better position to understand that person. Paul opens his mind to us in Philippians 3. He writes: **7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and**

**count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ.** This is what makes Paul tick. He has come to the point where he now counts everything **as loss for the sake of Christ.** Nothing is as important to him as Jesus. Is this a man full of regrets? Do you hear him say: “I got gypped by Jesus. I never got my full retirement. I never got my pension. I never got to see all the places I dreamed of visiting. I wish I had been more careful with my money so that I could have left a greater inheritance to my kids.” No, he says: **I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.** I’ve lost everything! I consider it sheer garbage **in order that I may gain Christ.** I am not in prison because God is weak but I am where I am because Christ is supremely valuable. Of all that life has to offer, only Jesus is of surpassing worth. I will lay everything on the line to **gain Christ.** Or as Jim Elliott put it: **He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose.**

Powerful words, people. Noble words. Priceless words. Words worth living and dying for – but not everyone is so noble or selfless. It seems that there were two categories in Rome. The first group was not so noble. **15 Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry... They 17 ... proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment.** Paul did not have an impressive appearance. He was short of stature and his body was a broken mess from all the persecution he had suffered. However, he was without a doubt the most successful advancer of the Gospel with an impressive record. That made some of the Roman Christians green with envy. These people were not heretics. They preached the pure message of the Gospel, but they did it in such a way as to make life more difficult for Paul. They did it out of **envy and rivalry.** They **proclaimed Christ out of selfish ambition** with the intent of afflicting Paul in his imprisonment.

How very sad. Later in chapter 2 Paul addresses the Philippians with these words: **3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.** But in our passage Paul says nothing. He realizes that **most of the brothers ... preach Christ ... from good will. 16 The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel.** In a display of magnimity, Paul says: “What does it really matter?” **18 What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.**

The important thing was that the Gospel was being advanced. The message of Jesus was getting out there, even if for some it was not being proclaimed for the right motives.

What is our take away from this study?

1. It is the true Gospel of Jesus Christ that must be proclaimed – his life, death, resurrection and Lordship.
2. Even suffering and persecution advances the Gospel.
3. Nothing surpasses the worth and value of knowing Christ. And
4. God uses even impure motives to his glory and for the advancement of his Kingdom. However, if you are going to proclaim Christ, it is better that your motives be pure.

**Invitation to Communion Hymn:**

**“Lamb of God” by Twila Paris**

(Click on the link below to play the hymn. Lyrics will be displayed on the screen.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2QGNUDsQ6fI>

1. Your only Son no sin to hide  
But You have sent Him from Your side  
To walk upon this guilty sod  
And to become the Lamb of God
2. Your gift of love they crucified  
They laughed and scorned Him as He died  
The humble King they named a fraud  
And sacrificed the Lamb of God

**Chorus**

O Lamb of God sweet Lamb of God  
I love the holy Lamb of God  
O wash me in His precious blood  
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

3. I was so lost I should have died  
But You have brought me to Your side  
To be led by Your staff and rod  
And to be called the Lamb of God

**Chorus**

O Lamb of God sweet Lamb of God  
I love the holy Lamb of God  
O wash me in His precious blood  
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God.  
O wash me in His precious blood  
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God.

### **Let us confess our common faith in the words of The Apostles Creed.**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
AMEN.

### **The Invitation to Communion**

Jesus said: **28** “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. **29** Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **30** For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” (Matthew 11) As we come to Communion today, I want to stress to you that this is an open and not a closed Table. It is open to all who know and love Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, and desire to walk with him in obedience. It does not matter what church you belong to. This is the Lord's Table and all of his children are welcome to come and share in this feast. **8** **O taste and see that the LORD is good.** (Psalm 34)

### **Prayer Before Communion**

Lord Jesus, as we come to your Table today, we may come with a sense of our unworthiness to take part in such a sacred meal. Thank you that when we come to you in repentance for our sin, we do not have to worry about our worthiness or goodness. You make us worthy through what you accomplished for us in your death on the Cross. Lord, these elements of Bread and Wine are symbolic of your body and blood. We now set them aside from all common uses to this one holy use. Draw near to us in a special way as we share together in this time of Communion. Through Christ our Lord we pray. **Amen**

### **The Communion**

Take the Bread, and say after me:

**The Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it and said: “This is my body that is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”**

**The body of Christ broken for me.**

You may partake of the bread.

Take the cup and say after me:

**In the same way, he took the cup after supper, saying: “This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. Whenever you do it, do it in remembrance of me.”**

**The blood of Christ shed for me.**

You may drink of the cup.

Say your own prayer of thanksgiving for this special time of Communion.

**Hymn: “In Christ Alone” – Stuart Townend and Keith Getty**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWiFYJMGas0>

1. In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone this solid Ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My Comforter my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

2. In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

3. There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me



For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

4.No guilt in life no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

### **Benediction**

Go now in the righteousness of faith  
and live by God's just demands.  
Let nothing claim your devotion above the Lord,  
and count nothing of value above knowing Christ.  
Press on towards the ultimate prize, of being one with him.

And may God's perfect word revive your soul;  
May Christ Jesus be your Saviour and your Rock;  
And may the Holy Spirit strengthen you to press ever onward.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.