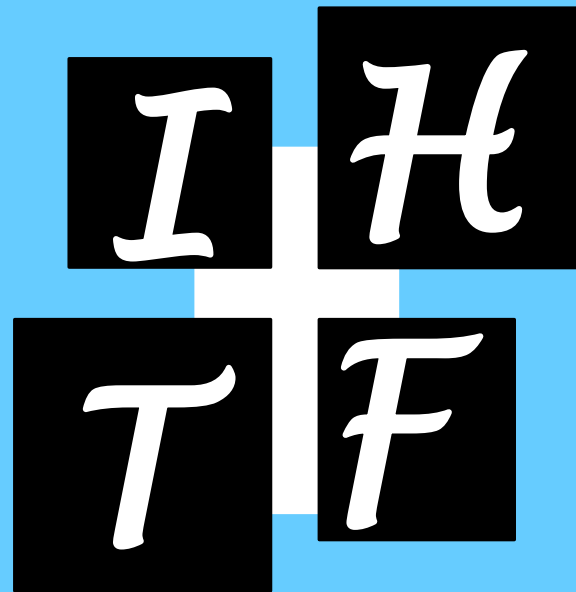





INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF TRUTH AND FREEDOM SMYRNA-VININGS, GA, USA

TruthnFreedom.com



10TH November 2024



TO LIVE IS CHRIST

(Christian Character Series)

The Resolution

Philippians 1:21

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. (NIV)

What comes before the joys of life in heaven is here and now. Paul knew what is central to every Christian's life, and boldly stated that, for him, to live is Christ. Everything we are and hope to be is meaningless unless it is all centered on Christ Jesus. Like Paul, our singular aim is to bring glory to God through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. If anything we do falls short of this mark, then we have nothing to live for. Every facet of our lives should be a depiction of the gospel of Christ. Will we be 100% on point every time? No. But when we fall down, we get back up and run the race of 'to live is Christ'. The only thing we cannot do is to stay down or go back.

Imitate Christ!

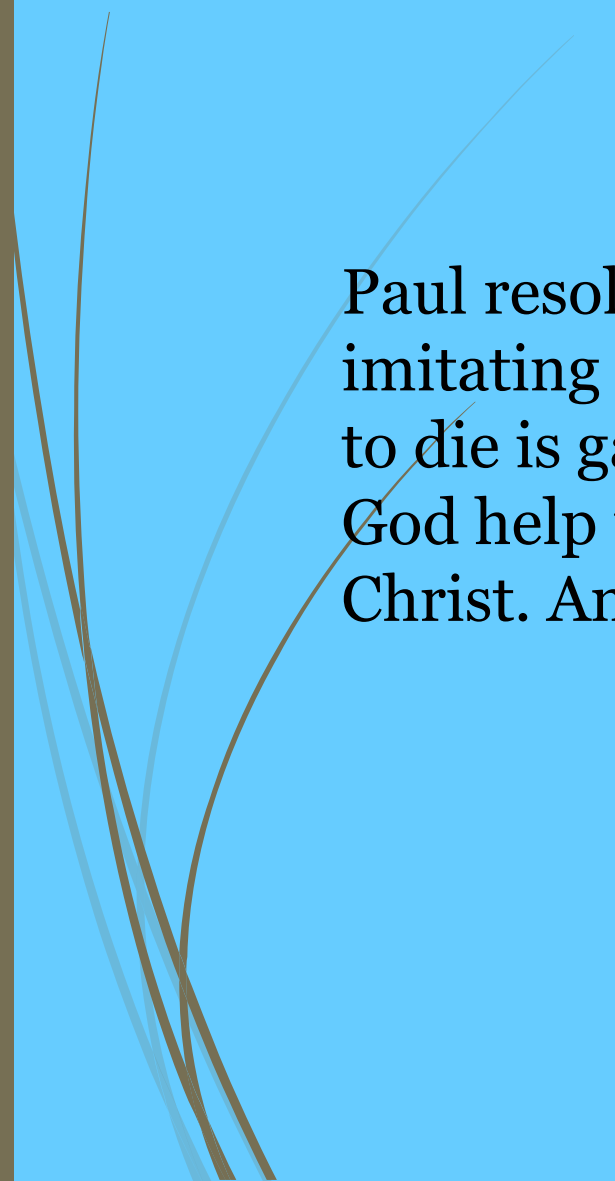
1 Corinthians 11:1

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

‘To live is Christ’ means to be imitators of Him. To be imitators of Christ, we must pursue with all our strength and might, the knowledge of Christ. We must know Christ well enough to imitate Him. This is not about ‘head knowledge’ but a kind of knowledge that comes from experiencing Him and His power. Paul wrote that he eagerly expected and hoped that he will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in his body, whether by life or death. Can we resolve to do that same? Will Christ be exalted in our body and lives no matter the moment or circumstance? Paul also acknowledged that this was possible through the prayers of the believers and God’s provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ.



Take Away



Paul resolved that his life was all to be about Christ, living for and imitating Him. He stated boldly that, for to him, “to live is Christ and to die is gain”. As believers, we should resolve to do the same. May God help us to bring Him glory and exalt His name. May we live for Christ. Amen!