

50 Bible Verses Everybody Should Know By Heart

Living Around the Central Value of our Life

Congratulations! The Verse this week is Verse #25 of the 50 Verses we should know by heart! After this lesson, we're halfway through! And since this is the "center" lesson in our study, we're going to consider a verse that's both a good one to hide in your heart for this year, and for life. It's a Verse dealing with what takes "center stage" in your life and serves as the "core" of what makes you, you. It is, in fact, a "life sentence" we would all do well to claim – a core commitment we would do well to keep throughout our lives.

Here's the Verse: PHILIPPIANS 1:21, "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is advantage / gain."

Here's what it means to commit myself to this verse.

1. It means I claim that Christ is the SOURCE of my life.

He's the source of my PHYSICAL life (John 1:3-4) and my SPIRITUAL life (John 3:1-8). I need both. God, through Christ, gives us both! At the end of the day, there's only two kinds of people (cf 1 John 5:12): those who HAVE the Son, and those who HAVE NOT the Son. The Bible knows no third category!

2. It means that I claim that Christ is the SOVEREIGN of my life.

In every decision in life, I follow an authority of some kind . . . others, myself, OR . . . Jesus speaking through Scripture. The first two are flawed and fallible. The third one is not. WHOSE voice drowns out the others? It's a joy to have only One Master instead of 1,000 voices all telling you what to do!

3. It means I claim that Christ is the STANDARD of my life.

Christ is our standard in two ways. 1st way: Scripture is His mouthpiece, giving us Absolute Standards for life, a roadmap for the journey, a play book for the game of life. 2nd way: Jesus gives us an example to imitate (cf Philippians 2).

4. It means I claim that Christ is the STRENGTH of my life.

Jesus Himself refers to His relationship to us as being like a vine and branches, a tree and limbs and leaves. Without a vital connection to Christ, we can do nothing (John 15:5). It's a hand-in-glove relationship, where the glove does nothing unless the hand is in it. As we grow, we grow in our sense of DEPENDENCE upon Christ!

5. It means I claim that Christ is the SUMMIT of my life.

For anyone who is in Christ, death is a transition from better to best, from a prison to a palace, from the land of the dying to the land of the living. It just gets better and better for those who die "in the Lord"!

**** The only way the 2nd part of this Verse can be True is IF the 1st part of this verse is True! ****