

PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE TO YOUR TEAM

January 19, 2020 Philippians 1:12-26

Are you praying for your team? Are you sharing your heart? Paul is in prison in Rome, chained to an elite Roman soldier who is a member of the palace guard, the praetorium. Yet he writes with **joy**. **God is at work**. “Now I want you to know... (Phil. 1:12).” How can you provide an example to your team?

1. Share your story and the gospel “I want you to know...”

- People listen more closely when you share your struggles and problems.
- What difficulty are you going through right now? How is God at work?
- Though Paul was in chains he used the opportunity to testify.
- Point people to Jesus. “I am in chains for Christ.” 1:13-14
- Don’t worry about those who don’t like you. 1:15-18 Rejoice! Soon Paul would stand trial before the wicked Roman emperor, Nero.

2. Always stay focused on Christ – Philippians 1:21 “For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.”

- Your prayers make a big difference. Phil. 1:19 “For my deliverance.”
- The Holy Spirit is at work. Phil. 1:19, Romans 8:28
- God is giving me courage. My confidence is in Christ alone. 1:20
- Paul says that life is lived for Christ (1:21) and to die is gain because then he would be with Christ.
- Paul reflects on the benefits of living and dying. “I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but...” 1:23-24
- What assignment has God given you now and before you die?
- Two stories reflecting on Philippians 1:21