

## Philippians 1:23

*For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.*

God did not allow you to wake up today so that you could do or say something stupid. But rather so that you would bring glory to His name!

When I woke up this morning, I decided that I would sin 384 times before lunch today, which would include robbing a bank, killing a stranger, getting drunk and causing an accident, walk into an elementary school and yell out profanities, cussing my brains out, and getting into a fight and.....

Ok, not really, but if you think about it, how many of us wake up and think, “*What sins can I commit today?*” Hopefully no one. Yet how many may not think of things as sin, but plan on sinning anyway?

- How many will plan on going out and partying today or tonight or this weekend?
- How many have on their shopping list with cases of beer or bottles of alcohol that they plan on buying that day?
- How many plan to go see that “R” rated movie that they know is full of sex and nudity and profanity?
- How many know they should tithe on the paycheck they just got, but decided that they wanted to get that one thing, or go to that one place; therefore, they decide not to tithe?
- How many can’t wait to go to Vegas this weekend, because they know what happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas.

Shall I go on? I didn’t think so.

Let’s read today’s verse again in it’s context from the NLT:

† **Philippians 1:21-24 (NLT2)** *For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better. But if I live, I can do more fruitful work for Christ. So I really don’t know which is better. I’m torn between two desires: I long to go and be with Christ, which would be far better for me. But for your sakes, it is better that I continue to live.*

Paul was battling with staying here on this earth to be a witness for Jesus Christ, verses, going home to heaven to be with Jesus Christ. I know for me, my greatest desire is to be in heaven right now with my Savior, Jesus Christ. But every day the Lord awakens me to a brand-new day here on this earth, and that’s where my initial thought comes into play, which is: **God did not allow you to wake up today so that you could do or say something stupid. But rather so that you would bring glory to His name!**

Some of us struggle to be with the Lord in heaven like Paul was, verses staying here on the earth being a witness for the Lord. Whereas others struggle every day with living as a Christian, verses living as a non believer.

Paul also says that ***“All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.”*** 1 Corinthians 6:12

We as Christians are free to do whatever we want. But as Paul says that even though we are, that ***“all things are not helpful.”***

So, think of the things you are planning on doing today or this weekend, and ask yourself if you are being ***“brought under the power of any”*** of them, meaning are they controlling you, and even though you are not saying that they are sin, do you know that they really are, yet you’re planning on doing them anyway?

† 1 Corinthians 10:23 (NLT2) ***You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is good for you. You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is beneficial.***