

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)



Devotion for September 9th, 2021

Philippians 1:21-2:11

Today's reading is from Philippians 1:21-2:11. For as much as I may know that God is in control of all things, I'm still taken aback by "coincidences" that occur, such as these verses coming across my desk as an option for today.

For those of you who may not know, one of my responsibilities here at Grace is helping teach religion. Recently, I was talking with our 6th graders about creation, which led to discussions about heaven and the concept of death. We discussed how odd it may seem that our perspective as Christians is to be desiring our lives after death.

Our desire is to *"depart and be with Christ"*. This human existence is not what we were meant to have, it is not the perfect world we were originally given. This can get murky, though, because we love our families, we enjoy how we spend our time here, and thinking about all that ending can be a bit alarming. But the reality is we have such a beautiful gift waiting for us, won by Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

Now this is not to say that our goal should be for our earthly life to reach its end. We have been given a purpose here as well. As Paul writes, *"But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith."*

God has blessed us with the gift of our time here, and so we in turn can use our time to honor Him. We care for creation and those around us, we share the good news of our wonderful Savior, and live out whatever vocations we have been given. And when we reach the time of death, or when the Lord returns,

we can face it with confidence in our salvation. For we have a Savior who gave up everything for us, so that we have nothing to fear in death.

I pray that you are continually at peace knowing that your Savior conquered death for you.

*God's blessings,
Marissa Kroenke, Deaconess Intern
Grace Lutheran Church & School*

Grace Lutheran Church & School | [Website](#)

