



Expecting Deliverance

How the right attitude about set-backs frees us to excel.

Philippians 1:19-26

Philippians 1:19-26 – ¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. ²⁰I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²²If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that through my being with you again your joy in Christ Jesus will overflow on account of me.

(New International Version)

1:19 – How could Paul expect his being in chains (verse 17) to turn out for his deliverance?

How can our workplace difficulties serve to deliver us?

1:20 – Why did Paul hope for courage?

Why do we need courage to exalt Christ at work?

1:21 – What does it mean, “to live is Christ”?

How is death gain?

1:22 – What did Paul see as the reason to go on living?

What is “fruitful labor”?

How might Paul’s rationale for continuing to live help someone who is discouraged by life’s difficulties?

1:23-24 – Did Paul want to live or die?

How may our struggling with life’s difficulties benefit our coworkers?

1:25-26 – Why was Paul convinced that his imprisonment would not lead to his death?

How may we likewise contribute to the “*progress and joy in the faith*” of our coworkers?

How does an optimistic outlook help us to excel at work?