

# TO LIVE IS CHRIST

*The Life and Ministry of Paul*

*Listening Guide*

*Beth Moore*



## *Goals for To Live Is Christ*

Matthew 4:18; 5:1-2; Acts 1:1-2

### Potential Learning Disabilities in the Christian Classroom

1. Spiritual Attention Deficit Disorder: This term applies to the person who has trouble paying attention for very long (Neh. 9:30-31; Isa. 42:20-22).
2. Spiritual hyperactivity: When we can't be still (Ps. 46:10-11). The Hebrew meaning of the word *still* is "let down the hands."
3. Spiritual Dyslexia: This disorder is present when we have a tendency to keep getting things turned upside down or turned around, such as when we think we are in charge (Isa. 29:16-17; 64:8; Job 38:2-13, 16-21).
4. Vision Impairment: When we only see what's closest to us (Prov. 29:18; Matt. 28:18-20).
5. Hearing Impairment: (Isa. 50:4-5).

Morning by morning He wakes us to hear from Him.

When I have a word for you and you turn your back I call that rebellion.

## *The First Footprints*

**How can we make an invisible God visible to children?**

1. By learning to recognize Him ourselves! (John 14:19-23; 5:17).
2. By exerting primary influence while you can (Prov. 4:1-4, 10, 20-21).

*Tender* in Hebrew means “soft-hearted, pliable.”

3. By personally demonstrating the relevance of God’s Word (Prov. 3:5-6).
4. By seizing opportunities to teach about God (Deut. 6:4-9).
5. By growing with them! (1 Cor. 13:11).
6. By dedicating them to God (Prov. 22:6).

*Train up* in Hebrew means:

1. “to disciple”
2. “to dedicate”

## *Finding the Way*

### Acts 9:1-19

1. An initiation into dependency (v. 8). The road to service begins with dependence.
2. The enforcement of time (v. 9).
3. An important “point” behind appointments (v. 17).

The meaning of the word *sent* or *apostle* is “to send forth on a mission.”

Psalm 45:2; 1 Corinthians 15:9-10

4. A new kind of prayer (v. 11).
5. An open dialogue (vv. 13-16).

### Ways to Confirm God's Will

- a. Is this command congruent with God's character?
  - b. Have you received reconfirmation?
  - c. Have you received sound counsel?
6. An overriding authority (v. 14; Matt. 28:18).
  7. A graceful obedience (v. 17; John 20:17).

The word disciple means “learner, student.”

## *Wives and Missions*

### Galatians 5:16-26

#### The Fruit of the Spirit

1. God's provision for believers to share the personality of Christ (Gal. 2:20).

- Love: We have a supernatural ability to demonstrate God's love (Rom. 5:8)
- Joy: We have the supernatural ability to discover joy even in difficulty (Matt. 13:44).
- Peace: We have a supernatural ability to have peace when our worlds are shaken (Ps. 46:1-4; Heb. 12:26-29; Col. 3:15).

#### Definitions of patience

1. Hupomone: The ability to bear up under difficult circumstances.
2. Makrothumia: The ability to bear up with difficult people.
  - Patience: We have the supernatural ability to bear up with difficult people.
  - Kindness: We have the supernatural ability to remain warm and tender-hearted in an uncaring world.
  - Goodness: We have the supernatural ability to be genuinely beneficial to this world.
  - Faithfulness: We have the supernatural ability to believe God and to act on our belief.
  - Gentleness: We have the supernatural ability to surrender and submit to God's will.
  - Self-Control: We have the supernatural ability to exercise restraint (2 Tim. 1:7).
2. A super-nature completely contrary to our human natures (Gal. 5:17).
3. The supernatural outcome of living in the Spirit (Gal. 5:16).  
Live in the Spirit by walking with God through:
  - Daily surrender to His authority.
  - Daily cleansing from sin.
  - Daily desiring the filling of the Spirit (Luke 11:13; Gal. 2:20).

## *Unexpected Sojourners and Wider Paths*

### 1 Thessalonians 3:1-3; 4:13-18

Thirteen points Paul assures us in Scripture will give us hope.

1. Christians don't have to be uninformed about other believers who have already died (1 Thess. 4:13).  
*Falling asleep* means "to be outstretched or to lie down" (2 Cor. 5:6-9).
2. Christians don't have to grieve without hope (1 Thess. 4:13). The meaning for hope can be interpreted as anxious expectation of something good.
3. Our hope is in a glorious future ingathering of all believers in Christ.
4. This future resurrection of believers who have died in Christ is as certain as Christ's past resurrection (1 Thess. 4:14).
5. We do not know the time this ingathering will take place (1 Thess. 5:1-3; Matt. 24:36).
6. God made a special provision for those who die before Christ's return for believers (1 Thess. 4:15).
7. The Lord Himself will come down from heaven with a loud command (1 Thess. 4:16).  
  
*Keleusma*, the original word for *loud command* means:  
First, for the soldiers charging their enemies.  
Second, for charioteers inciting their horses (2 Kings 2:10-13).
8. Christ's coming will be accompanied by the voice of the archangel (1 Thess. 4:16).
9. A trumpet will sound the ingathering (1 Thess. 4:16).
10. The dead in Christ will rise first; then those who are still alive will be caught up together with them (1 Thess. 4:16-17). *Meet* means a "meeting from every conceivable direction."
11. We will meet the Lord in the air (1 Thess. 4:17).
12. All Christians will receive new imperishable forms or bodies at this ingathering (1 Cor. 15:51-54).  
The original Greek word *atomos* means "indivisible."  
The word *caught up* means "to rob, to seize."
13. All Christians will be with the Lord forever (1 Thess. 4:17-18; Job 19:23-27).

## *An Unfamiliar Road*

### Lessons Paul learned from hardships in Asia

#### 2 Corinthians 1:8-11

1. We sometimes face the most difficulty when we're being used most powerfully (v. 8).

Acts 19:8-12, 17-20; 1 Corinthians 15:30-32

2. The enemy can't squelch the power of God so he tries to disable the servant of God (v. 8). *Hardship* means "to be compressed on on every side."

*Great pressure* means "to be oppressed."

3. Even the most devoted believers can encounter hardships far beyond our ability to endure (v. 8; 1 Cor. 10:13). *Huperballo* means "to throw beyond, to surpass."

4. Believers can experience despair (v. 8). The original Greek word for *despair* means "to be wholly without resource."

5. Believers can experience feelings of doom (v. 9). *Sentence* means "answer."

6. God wants us to rely on Him (v. 9). *Rely* means "to be convinced" (1 John 4:16).

7. When our hardships surpass our ability to endure, God wants us to discover His ...

- Surpassing power (2 Cor. 4:7). *Power* actually means "achieving power."
- Surpassing glory (2 Cor. 4:17). *Glory* means "to recognize."
- Surpassing comfort (2 Cor. 1:3-5).

8. God has a special delivery in mind when His children suffer hardships (2 Cor. 1:10).

The original Greek word for *rescue* means "to draw to oneself."

## *Travel Ties and Hard Good-byes*

1 Corinthians 12:1-11, 27-30; Romans 12:3-8; Ephesians 4:11-13

### Understanding of Spiritual Gifts

1. We do not need to be intimidated by the subject of spiritual gifts (1 Cor. 12:1).
2. Scripture seems to suggest we should resist being overly dogmatic about spiritual gifts.
3. Spiritual gifts are products of grace. *Charisma* means “a gift of grace, an undeserved benefit.”
4. God gives different kinds of spiritual gifts (1 Cor. 12:4).

*Different* means “division, distribution, classification, apportionment.” God purposely divided the gifts among us so we would be compelled to be unified in order to function properly as a church (1 Pet. 4:10). *Various forms* means “variegated, multi-colored!” (1 Cor. 12:4).

5. Spiritual gifts are manifestations of the Spirit (1 Cor. 12:7).

*Manifestation* means “to make visible or observable.”

6. God gives spiritual gifts to every believer (1 Cor. 12:11).
7. Your spiritual gifts are given to you but not primarily for you (1 Pet. 4:10; 1 Cor. 12:7).
8. Spiritual gifts remind us how much we need each other (1 Cor. 12: 21).
9. Spiritual gifts can be counterfeited or exercised “in the flesh” (1 Pet. 4:11; 1 Cor. 13:1-3).

10. Our spiritual gifts accompany the residence of the Holy Spirit in us when we receive Christ, but they are developed through spiritual maturity and practice.

Paul told Timothy to “fan into flames the gift of God” (2 Tim. 1:6).

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

## *A Walk of Faith*

### Acts 22

#### Faith That Stands Up Under Trial

1. A belief system beyond simple preferences (Acts 22:3-5; Rom. 9:3-5).
2. A belief system beyond personal philosophy (Acts 24:13-16; 26:7; Rom. 10:2).
3. A belief system which stands the test of convictions rather than preferences or philosophies.

What are several criteria which help determine whether or not a claimed belief system is:

Preference or Genuine Conviction?

- True convictions are intimately related to daily living.
- True convictions have a history (Acts 26:19-23; Rom. 10:17; 14:1).
- True convictions are personal (2 Tim. 4:16-17).
- True convictions are preserved against the pressure to conform (Rom. 12:1-2; 14:2-3).
- True convictions are unchanging regardless of circumstances (Acts 24:27).

## *The Pathway to Rome*

### Romans 6:1-23

#### Slaves to Righteousness

1. By reminding ourselves we are dead to sin (v. 11).

*Count* means “to occupy oneself with reckonings or calculations.”

2. By deliberately resisting the reign of sin (v. 12).

3. By deliberately offering ourselves to God (v. 13; 12:1).

4. By knowing our rights as those united with Christ (v. 14; Gal. 5:1).

5. By not misapplying the doctrine of grace (v. 15).

6. By realizing no substitute exists for whole-hearted obedience in our quest to be free from slavery to sin (v. 17).

7. By facing the weakness of our natural selves (v. 19).

8. By acknowledging the ever-increasing nature of wickedness (v. 19).

9. By never forgetting the powerless feeling of being out of control (v. 20).

10. By counting the cost of slavery to sin (v. 21).

11. By recognizing the benefit of slavery to God (v. 22; Mic. 7:8, 18-19).

## *Letters Bridging the Miles*

### Philippians 3:3-14

#### Ten Goals from Paul's Heart

1. To count on gain when we've lost for the sake of Christ (v. 8).

*Knowing* means "present and fragmentary knowledge."

2. To identify the primary gain as Christ Himself (v. 8).

3. To be found in Christ (v. 9).

The word *doulos*. He was the bonds slave of Jesus Christ.

4. To possess the righteousness that comes from God (v. 9).

5. To know Christ (v. 10).

*To know* implies "something we know by trial/examination/seeking to find out."

6. To be unhindered by personal imperfection (v. 12).

7. To press on (v. 12).

8. To take hold of Christ's purposes for me (v. 12).

*Take hold* means "to be seized with eagerness or suddenness!"

9. To forget former trophies (vv. 13-14, v. 5).

10. To reach for the prize (v. 14).

## *Going Home*

### **Ephesians 2:8-10**

*Workmanship* in the original Greek is poiema.

*Poiema (workmanship)* means “poem (or masterpiece).”

1. The poet writes from strong emotion (Eph. 3:17b-19).
2. The poet pens some of the most beautiful lines from thorns (2 Cor. 12:7-10).
3. Faith lives between the lines (2 Cor. 5:7; Titus 1:2).
4. Our poems are not complete (Phil. 1:6; 1 Cor. 13:12).

Epignosis: Fully known means “clear and exact knowledge.”

5. One day all the lines will rhyme (Rom. 8:28).