

## Now What – Changing Our Perspective

5-24-2020

*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. Philippians 1:2-7*

- We all have a what and don't understand the why.
- God always has a why behind the what.
- I don't have to understand the why to trust God in the what.

### TWO QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN LIFE IS HARD

#### 1) NOW WHAT?

*Now, I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, Philippians 1:12*

*so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. Philippians 1:13*

*And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. Philippians 1:14*

#### 2) SO WHAT?

*Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice. Philippians 1:15-18*

- *Tis gar plen (tis gar plane): What does it matter? So what?*

*For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. Philippians 1:21*

*For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, Philippians 1:29*