

## Discussion Guide: “Complexity”

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship,  
to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42 (NIV)*

**December 28, 2003:** Pastor Joe Bartemus gave a wonderful sermon on the complexity of our lives versus the simplicity that can be found in Jesus. He encouraged us in 2004 to make our lives simpler and to center our life more around Jesus. He used Philippians 1:19-24 to show three areas of our life that we can simplify in Jesus. He said that we live in an increasingly complex society, especially from a technology standpoint. And though these things are intended to simplify our lives, only Jesus can do that!!!

<b>Master of your life</b>	<b>Mission of your life</b>	<b>Future of your life</b>
Simplify to a single Master— Jesus!	Simplify to a single mission	Simplify to a single future
“Under Jesus”	“In Jesus”	“With Jesus”
Philippians 1:19-20	For to me to live is Christ! In the Greek it would read, “For to me to live...CHRIST!” The mission statement is not a performance—it is a PERSON and a Relationship! Some may say that to live is maintaining blood flow, air flow and food intake, but to Paul to live is CHRIST	“To die is gain” “I desire to depart and be with Christ” Better by far in Greek is “much more better!”

### Questions:

After reading Philippians 1:19-24, discuss the following...

- 1) As a group spend some time discussing what the Bible means when it says, “For to me to live is Christ”
- 2) Pastor Joe said that many times even Christians do not talk about Jesus, after perhaps a brief mention of Him, the conversation quickly changes to “more interesting” topics like the Colts. Spend time as a group discussing Jesus. If you find this difficult, spend time talking about why this may be difficult.
- 3) What does it look like to have Jesus as the Master, Mission and Future of your life? How does that work out in everyday life?
- 4) Spend some time discussing other masters of your life, with which you have struggled.
- 5) Now discuss other missions in your life that haven’t been about Jesus.
- 6) What futures have you desired and contemplated more than your future with Jesus?