



## To Remain:

### The benefits for Paul remaining:

- He would continue to help people grow spiritually.
- His vision for reaching the world for Christ would continue.
- He still had other letters to write that inspired the world.

### The Liabilities for Paul remaining:

- He would remain absent from his heavenly home.
- He would continue to be a prisoner and
- His pain and suffering would increase.

Paul faced a dilemma that was beyond himself to figure out.

**“I do not know which to choose.” Philippians 1:22**

Paul needed the Lord to lead him and give him wisdom so he would have joy in the midst of the process.

The theme of Philippians is joy.

And if:

- When dilemmas arise in our life, we are unable to decipher the right direction to go.
- And if we hope to maintain our joy in the process.
- We must allow the Lord to be our Guide, our Strength, our Wisdom – our all in all!

❖ What is the process of handing our dilemmas over to God?

**Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety upon Him because He cares for you. 1Peter 5:6-7**

- The battle for many of us, is that we are people who have a “I-can-handle-it-myself” attitude and mindset.
- For many of us, “letting go and letting God take charge” is one of life’s hardest challenges for us.
- ❖ If we really want to experience the peace and joy of God in the midst of life’s dilemmas, the first place we need to start is by

admitting and confessing to the Lord that – You Lord, are more capable and intelligent and responsible than I ever could be.

- ✓ So, I choose to give you my dilemmas. Forgive me, help me to trust you and fill me with Your joy as I turn all of life’s dilemmas over to You.

## Did Paul experience God’s leading in his life?

**Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith,<sup>26</sup> so that through my being with you again your joy in Christ Jesus will overflow on account of me. Philippians 1:25-26**

The same is true for you and I when we give the Lord the dilemmas of our lives.

- He will answer us!
- He will lead us!
- He will guide us!
- He will fill us with His joy in the midst of it all!

### The biblical principal of life’s dilemmas.

❖ **Making right decisions within dilemmas forces us to rethink our priorities.**

Jesus Christ faced an agonizing dilemma in his life.

Should I do things my way and not have to suffer death or should I say yes to God and trust he will see me through.

**Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.” Matthew 26:39**

❖ This is how we can be filled with joy during life’s dilemmas. **Not my will, but your will, O Lord.**