

I've Been Doing Some Praying Lately

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Philippians 1:5-11.

B. Paul spent a lot of time praying for the Philippian Christians.

II. Paul was praying about the way we live.

A. He talks about the Day of Christ.

1. Paul believed Jesus would return to take those who knew him to glory and leave those who did not for condemnation.

2. Paul wanted people to live in light of Jesus' imminent return.

B. He talks about living by Jesus Christ. We live by the power of Christ living in us.

C. He talks about living for the glory of God, which gives us a sense of objectivity.

D. He prays that their love will abound more and more.

1. This is the kind of love that has a divine source. (John 4:16, Romans 5:5)

2. The essence of this kind of love is always sacrifice. (John 3:16)

3. Love is the fulfillment of love and it is greater than faith and hope.

4. Real love distributes.

5. Love abounds in different ways.

6. Deeper love is unconditional and stays the course.

Application questions:

1. In what ways does the church struggle to live in light of Jesus' return?

2. What distinguishes the divine love from the love of the world?

3. In what ways can you grow in your love for others? Explain.
