

Text – 1 Cor 4:8-13; 2 Cor 2:12-17

Why Does Paul Use Triumphal Procession Imagery?

- The lens of a _____.

How Does Captivity put Life and Suffering in Context?

- Living as Christ's _____.
- Captivity puts suffering in _____.

Are We Living as Christ's Conquered Captives?

Life Enrichment

What about today's sermon challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- Of history's heroes, which is your favorite? Why? What are the most memorable parades you have attended?
- How do modern ticker-tape parades differ from Roman triumphal processions? How are they similar?
- Why do you think the Corinthian church despised Paul's hardships and sufferings? What does that tell us about their view of how the future affects the present?
- If we think that the kingdom of God has already arrived in its completed form, how does that shape our perspectives on healing, prosperity, suffering, and disappointment?
- Why do you think the image of a conquered foe or captive was necessary to correct the Corinthian assumption that they were "already reigning" (1 Cor 4:8)? How might the same image help correct some of the errors present in the American church?
- What does it mean to be a captive of Christ? How is it lived out day-to-day?
- In what ways does captivity put suffering in a new light? If we are captives, what purpose does our suffering serve?
- Read Acts 9:1-18. What was the Apostle Paul before his conversion? List some of Paul's statements that help us know Christ conquered him on the road to Damascus.
- What was Christ's pathway to victory? Should he be our pattern? If so, how will our practice of Christianity need to change?