

Personal Application and Group Interaction:

What motivates you to take on a difficult, disgusting or frightening task?

What do you think might have been stirring in the hearts of those who were preaching Christ out of envy and rivalry? When has envy prompted you to do something? What did you do about it?

How does envy show its ugly head among God's people today? What do we (assuming that we too are part of the problem) do about it?

Jesus said, "Blessed are the pure in heart [those with unmixed motives], for they will see God." (Matt. 5:8) What motivates you when it comes to telling people about the work and reputation of Jesus? When do your motives work against you? What do you do about it?

Paul was able to rejoice that the gospel was being preached even by those who meant to crush the competition. What is the equivalent in our world today (in sad motives and sincere rejoicing)?

What do you do to prompt your rejoicing over the impact of the gospel here and around the world?



What motivates you?

Philippians 1:15-18

Pastor John
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Last week we recalled the impact of the loss of five young missionaries in the jungles of Ecuador in 1956. Thousands of young people committed their lives to spread the gospel of Christ around the world no matter the cost. Rather than run from the risk they embraced the blessed call of the Savior. As Paul's imprisonment motivated God's people to "speak the word of God courageously and without fear," we discovered that even the most difficult of circumstances can be a tremendous platform for the advance of the gospel. So, what motivates you to look beyond your limitations, distractions and circumstances to get the word out?

Are you motivated/driven/compelled by love...?

Are you motivated/driven/compelled by selfish ambition?

Are you motivated/driven/compelled by God's desires?