Introduction:
A. Life can be ________________ and ________________.
B. We can get stuck focusing on the past, future, or present and lose our __________.
C. After Paul came to know __________, he found someone to live and die for.

I. Paul’s _______________ (1:19-20)
A. Paul was confident that this would turn out for his_______________.
B. Paul’s confidence was based on two factors:
   1. The supportive ___________ of his friends.
   2. The support of the ___________

II. Paul’s _______________ (1:21)
A. Everyone is living for __________.
B. Everyone fills in the ___________ of this sentence: “For me to live is ___________.
C. To live for anything other than Christ, then to die is ___________.
D. How is death a “gain” for the Christian?
   1. In death, we ______ everything we don’t ______.
   2. In death, we ______ everything that ________.
   3. In death, we ______ what we never ______ ________.
E. Dr. John Rice, Southern evangelist, “You can threaten me with ___________.

III. Paul’s _______________ (1:22-26)
A. Paul’s conflict was that although he wanted to go be with __________, he realized he was still __________ in this world.
B. Henry James, “The best use for your life is to invest it in something that will ________ it.”
C. Only two things in this world that will last forever are: 1. The ______ of ______. 2. __________
D. Paul described death as a “______________,”
   1. __________ used it to “take down your _______ and move on.”
   2. __________ used it to “loosen a _______ and sail on.”
   3. __________ used it to describe “being set free from ___________.”
   4. __________ used it to “_________ the _______ after a day of work.”
E. 2 Corinthians 5:1-10

Conclusion:
A. James Rich’s harrowing experience reminds us to stay alert about the __________ of our lives.
B. It is all too easy to live life on __________, unaware that we are far ______ ________
C. The only way to live so we can face life and death with peace, courage and joy, is to live life for ___________. (Eccl. 12:13b; Luke 9:24)