Introduction:
1. Paul stated, “For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” -Ph 1:21
2. The first clause is our focus of this lesson series; “to live is Christ”

Proposition: To live for Christ, I must first be crucified with Him.

Interrogative: What is it to be crucified with Him?

Transition: For one to be crucified with Christ, one must have a…

I. WILLING HEART
   A. EXAMPLE OF JESUS
      1. He did not have to be crucified
         a. He could have called to His Father for more than twelve legions of angels -Mt. 26:53
         b. He could have walked away as He did before -Lk 4:28-30
      2. Jesus submitted to the will of the Father -Lk 22:42

   B. WE COME TO GOD WITH A WILLING HEART
      1. Those who desire to come after Christ -Mk 8:34-38
      2. Man is invited to come -Mt 11:28-30; Re 3:20
      3. Christ holds no one against their will -Jn 6:60-ff

II. FOCUS ON GOD’S WILL
    A. NOT ON THE WORKS OF THE FLESH
       1. Paul list some works of the flesh -Ga 5:19-21
       2. We are to abstain from the works of the flesh -1Pe 2:11, 12
       3. Re-aim your focus -Ja 1:13-15

    B. DISTRACTING AMBITIONS REMOVED
       1. Some allowed for distraction in their lives:
          b. Rich young ruler -Mt 19:16-22
          c. The Pharisees who believed -Jn 12:42-43
          d. Herod with his unlawful wife -Mk 6:16-18
          e. Pilate -Jn 19:12-16
       2. Paul was an example of one who did -Ph 3:8-ff
III. **MAGNIFICATION OF CHRIST**

A. **GOD MUST COME FIRST IN OUR LIVES**
   1. We love Him with every fiber of our being - Mt 22:37-ff
   2. We love Him above all else - Mt 10:34-39

B. **HIS PRIORITIES BECOME OUR OWN**
   1. Attendance - He 10:24, 25
   2. Prayer - Mk 1:35; 1Th 5:17
   3. Evangelism - Jn 4
   4. Compassion - Mt 9:36; 25:31-ff

Conclusion:
   1. When the old man of sin has been put to death (Co 3:5), we then can truly live for Christ.
   2. It is a choice and a daily commitment that all of us must make.