

Students - Cell Group Discipleship Study Guide

Phil. 3:1-11

Subject: The Joy Of Having Christ In Your Life

Scripture: Phil 3:1-11 - *1 Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, and it is a safeguard for you. 2 Watch out for those dogs, those men who do evil, those mutilators of the flesh. 3 For it is we who are the circumcision, we who worship by the Spirit of God, who glory in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh— 4 though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness, faultless. 7 But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8 What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ — the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. 10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. (NIV)*

Scripture Content - As we come to our text, Paul talks about the things he gave us (Judaism) in order to fully embrace Christ (Christianity). Know Christ made all the difference in his life.

Objective: Goal: The goal of this lesson is to help us understand we can earn salvation based upon our pedigree or degrees or anything else. **Challenge:** Trust Christ fully for our salvation and pursue Him daily so we will be like Him. **Benefit:** The more we become like Christ, the more other will be drawn to Christ.

Message from the Passage to Rising Star - Questions from Sunday's Message for Discussion

A. Knowing Christ _____ False Teachers (Vs. 1-3).

1. The _____ of Paul (V. 1). *1 Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, and it is a safeguard for you.*

What safeguards God has put in place to help us stay away from false teachers?

2. The _____ of Paul (V. 2). *2 Watch out for those dogs, those men who do evil, those mutilators of the flesh.*

Who was Paul referring to when he uses the word dogs?

3. The _____ of Believers (V. 3). *3 For it is we who are the circumcision, we who worship by the Spirit of God, who glory in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh—*

Is circumcision required for salvation today?

B. Knowing Christ _____ Human Pride (Vs. 4-11).

1. Paul's _____ (Vs. 4-6). *4 though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness, faultless.*

What are some of the things people rely on today to make them right with God?

2. Paul's _____ (Vs. 7-9).

a. What Paul _____ (Vs. 7-8a). *7 But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8 What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things.*

What did Paul give us?

b. What Paul _____ (Vs. 8b-9). *I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ — the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.*

What did Paul gain?

3. Paul's _____ (Vs. 10-11). *10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. (NIV)*

What was Paul's passion?

Application

1. We must stay in the Word so we won't be led astray. How time do you spend in the Word?
2. We must fully trust in the finish work of Christ on Calvary for our salvation. As you share the Gospel with others make sure you let them know that they are saved because of what Christ has done and not based upon something they do.
3. To know Christ should be our passion in life. What's your passion? If it's not Christ, make it top priority to rearrange your life so you can give him first place.

We are growing **Warmer** through **Fellowship**, **Deeper** through **Discipleship**, **Stronger** through **Worship**, **Broader** through **Ministry**, **Larger** through **Evangelism**, **Healthier** and **Wealthier** through **Stewardship**. (Acts 2:41-47)

Memory Verse: Phil. 3:14 - I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. (NIV)