January 22, 2023

Lesson Title: Gaining in Jesus Christ

Lesson Text: Philippians 3:7-11

Suggested Reading Philippians Ch. 1-3

Facilitator: M.C. McCants
The Apostle Paul continues his warning to the Church by speaking against self righteousness by way of the law and the flesh. Paul reminds the Church of his pedigree, heritage, accomplishments and yet displays a willful obedience to Christ. His commitment and hunger for Christ exceeds all laws.
LESSON OUTLINES

1. Paul’s Commitment (Philippians 3: 7, 8 )

2. Righteousness Through Faith (Philippians 3:9)

3. Paul’s Desire to Know Christ (Philippians 3:10-11)
GOALS FOR THIS LESSON

1. EXPLORE Paul’s attitude about the value of knowing Christ Jesus;
2. EXAMINE feelings of achieving honors compared to feelings of living a life in Christ.
3. UNDERSTAND the difference between personal prestige & the value of growing in Jesus Christ.
QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER?

1. Why did the Apostle Paul count everything a loss for Christ (Philippians 3:7–8)?

2. Where does righteousness come from?

3. What did Paul mean by knowing the Lord; the power of His Resurrection and His suffering?
PHILIPPIANS 3:7 NLT

Be Like Christ

7 I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done.
8 Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ.
9 and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God’s way of making us right with himself depends on faith.
10 I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead.

11 if somehow, I may attain the resurrection from the dead.
1. Paul’s commitment was totally 100%

2. Righteousness comes from GOD

3. Personal Prestige is no temporary.

4. Having a close relationship with Jesus Requires sacrifice.
In order to know Christ and have a personal relationship with Him, we need to be willing to make sacrifices in our lives. Sometimes, we have to give up old friends. Other times, we have to make time and take time to read and meditate on His Word, engage in prayer and fasting. So often in our fast-paced society, we have to be deliberate about making time for God. Are you determined to do so?
Decide this week to spend meaningful time with God through studying His Word, meditating on it, and prayer. As you spend time with Him, ask Him to help you prioritize your time so that fellowship with Him will become first priority.
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