

SERMON HANDOUT Philippians 3:1-11 **To Know Christ and Be Like Him**

Point 1: Genuine Christians must guard against any confidence in our own works and trust in Christ alone for salvation. **v1-3**

- a.) Genuine faith is summed up by **“Rejoice in the Lord.”** 1 Cor 1:30-31
- b.) Genuine faith is marked by **“worship in the Spirit of God.”** John 4:24
- c.) Genuine faith is evidenced by **“glorying in Christ Jesus.”** Jer 9:23-24
- d.) Genuine faith puts **“no confidence in the flesh”.** Jer 17:5,7

Point 2: Genuine Christians count all personal accomplishments and merits as LOSS in order to GAIN Christ through faith. **v4-9**

Mt 5:48 contra we can't do anything perfectly →Romans 3:10-12

Point 3: The goal of the Christian life is to know Christ and to be like Him. **v10-11**

a.) I want to know the power of His resurrection.
Ephesians 3:16-19, Rom 8:11

b.) I want to share in His sufferings.
Hebrews 5:8 **“Jesus learned obedience through what He suffered.”**
Mark 14:26 **And he said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”**
1 Pet 2:21-23.....**Christ sufferedbut continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.**

c.) I want to be like Him in His death.
Paul said this in Gal 2:20 **“I have been crucified with Christ....**

Reflect, discuss and apply:

1. Why is trusting in Christ plus our own good works not to trust in Christ at all?
2. How can your church be protected from false gospels?
3. According to 3:3, what are the three distinguishing marks of a genuine Christian?
4. On what are you basing your assurance of salvation (being made right before God)?
5. Consider Pau's seven sources of false confidence (ritual, ethnicity, rank, tradition, rule keeping, zeal, and obedience to the law). Which source is most enticing for you? Why?
6. Why do you need Christ's perfect righteousness?
7. How can a defeated Christian learn experientially Christ's resurrection power over temptation and sin?
8. Believers have resurrection power. What is this power within you working to bring about?
9. How does suffering for Christ enable us to know Christ more? Why is a godly response to suffering so crucial for our growth?
10. How does the hope of your resurrection encourage you in the Christian life?