

It's Not What You Know, It's Who You Know

“Further, my brothers and sisters, 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. Watch out for those dogs, those evildoers, those mutilators of the flesh. For it is we who are the circumcision, we who serve God by his Spirit, who boast in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh—though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: 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; as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ 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 on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.”

Philippians 3:1-11

Big Idea:

Our _____ is _____ work, through the _____, by the power of the _____.

The Danger...

1. The greatest danger in our spiritual lives might not be our _____ but our own _____.
Romans 10:2-3

2. Christ’s righteousness _____, the pursuit of our own blinds us of our need of a _____.
Luke 15:28-30; 18:

The Answer...

1. _____ to our _____.

2. _____.
Philippians 1:9

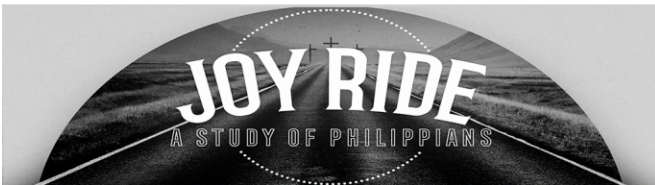
3. Every day continue to _____.
Philippians 3:10

Acknowledgements: Sources used in the preparation of this message include books and material presented by Tim Keller, Jon Tyson, Alistair Begg, Martyn Lloyd Jones, Karl Barth, and many more.

MY NEXT STEP IS TO . . .

- Begin to follow Jesus as my Lord and Savior for the first time today.
- Memorize Philippians 3:8.
- Ask God to show me where I’m trusting in my righteousness rather than in Christ’s.
- Ask God to stir in me a greater desire to know Him.
- Ask God to help me to die to my own righteousness.
- Get the most out of this weekend’s teaching by attending my Life Group





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Philippians 3:1-11

Big Idea:

Our salvation is God’s work, through the Son, by the power of the Spirit.

The Danger...

1. The greatest danger in our spiritual lives might not be our sin but our own righteousness.
Romans 10:2-3

It's Not What You Know, It's Who You Know

2. Christ’s righteousness saves, the pursuit of our own blinds us of our need of a Savior.
Luke 15:28-30; 18:

The Answer...

1. Die to our righteousness.
2. Know Christ.
Philippians 1:9
3. Every day continue to know Christ.
Philippians 3:10

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Discussion Questions - Week #1

LIFEGROUPS

Welcome to the Fall Quarter of Life Groups!

This week we kick off our Fall Life Group Quarter. Your first meeting will include extended time for you to get to know the others in your group as well as time to discuss the Life Group Covenant. To prepare for your first meeting, take some time to focus on the questions below. Please don't feel like you need to answer all the questions!!! Have a great first meeting!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- As you look back on the summer, share one or two highlights.
- Imagine you're going back to school for one day. What year would you pick and why?
- Finish this sentence: "I know it's fall when..."

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read Galatians 3:1-14. What stands out to you or speaks to you?

Faith is one of the major themes of this passage. How would you define faith in your own words?

What does this passage teach us about God's role in salvation and ours?

What do you think Paul means when he says, "the righteous will live by faith"?

Is there any practical step you might want to take this week in light of this passage?

2. Read Luke 18:9-14. With whom do you identify more in this story?

What was wrong with the Pharisees' prayer?

What was commendable in the tax collectors' prayer?

What lesson do you think Jesus intended to teach through it?

Why do you think we are easily tempted to believe our acceptance by God is based on what we do or don't do?

How can we avoid turning our good deeds and spiritual habits into a means for our own righteousness?

FOR PRACTICE

In this week's message, I suggested that the idea of knowing Christ speaks of the experience of intimacy with Christ. One of the most significant means for cultivating such intimacy in our relationship with Christ is prayer. The gospels reveal that Christ made a regular habit of rising early to spend time in communion with the Father. How are your habits or disciplines? Consider setting aside a few times this week, not for petitionary prayer or intercession, but merely to recognize Christ's presence and give Him room to speak.

SHARE IT

Is there anything you heard or learned in the weekend message or Life Group this week that you want to share with someone you know?

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for ERBC and the churches in the Eagle Rock area to embrace our calling to reach our community with the good news of the gospel. Pray for passionate witnesses, open doors to share, and receptive hearts and minds in those to whom we witness.