

The Examined life

Part 3

Today we see that all the benefits of life, or the cost of suffering, cannot compare to the value of intimacy with Jesus.

Five ways in which Paul described his efforts in being found in Jesus.

- 1) Acknowledge his righteousness as coming from Jesus alone.
- 2) Knowing Him through experience, Jesus living His life through Paul.
- 3) To have resurrection power (power to overcome sin and resistance) working mightily through him.
- 4) Participating in His sufferings for Righteousness' sake.
- 5) To be made conformable to His death (moment to moment dying that Jesus lived daily) self-emptying.

Spiritual disciplines that help:

Divine Guidance:

Pinnock and Scorgie include this discipline-encouraging keeping in step with the spirit.
Ps. 139:6

Suffering:

Willard provides focus on the discipline of suffering and dying to self.
1Peter 3:17-18

Reverence, Response, Request, Readiness—Daniel Henderson.
Psalm 50:15

Worship:

Life of devotion to God.

Psalms 29:2

Evangelism:

Bringing the Gospel to others. We are responsible for the contact, not the conversion.

Mark 16:15

Serving:

Remaining ready to serve—see a need then fill it.

John 13:12-16

Stewardship:

Time, talents, treasures, truth and relationships.

Matthew 25:21

Fasting:

Giving of self and goods for others.

Isa. 58:6-7

Learning:

Continual growth.

Hebrews 5: 11-14

Remaining steadfast in the disciplines.

1 Corinthians 15:58

Today I can put away everything that is hindering, or causing damage to my relationship with Him by lying at His feet.

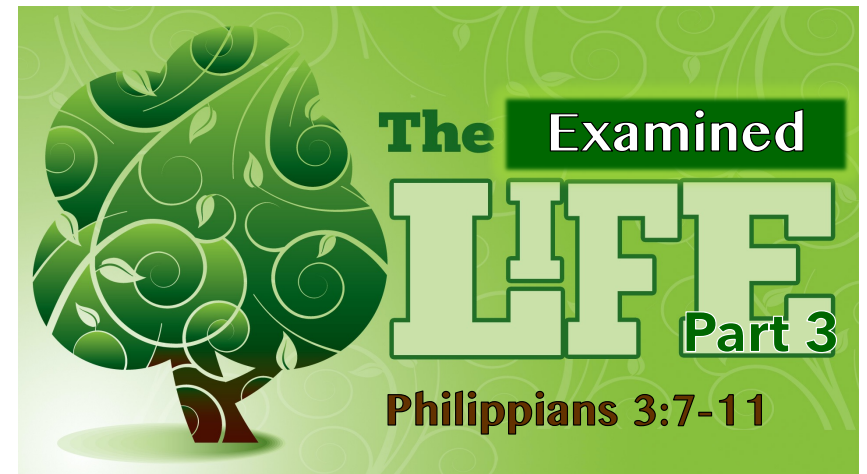
In closing, Trusting Jesus means I can life in relationship with Him, not because of my behavior, but because of His love, which is so great its worth losing the world to gain Him, no matter pain or difficulty.

Digging Deeper

FOR FURTHER STUDY:

1. What remains in your life now, that one day you will recognize a loss? What are willing to lose (money, reputation, comfort, family, status, etc.) to gain more intimacy with Jesus?
(Vs. 7-8a)

2. What are willing to do (in practice not proclamation) whether it be work, serve, give, or suffer (not just pain, but any suffering) to know Jesus more in an experiential way?
(Vs. 8b-11)



With Pastor Stuart Boyer
Faith Baptist Church
March 19, 2023