

# Philippians Daily Walk

## Theme 4: Identity

### Day 6 — Philippians 4:3

#### Names Written in the Book of Life

#### Key Scripture

*"Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel... whose names are in the book of life." — Philippians 4:3*

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#### Introduction

In a world where people often search for identity through success, popularity, accomplishments, possessions, or social status, Paul points believers to something far greater: their names are written in the Book of Life.

This simple phrase carries enormous significance. It reminds us that our identity is not based on what we have done but on who we belong to. Through faith in Jesus Christ, believers become part of God's family and citizens of His eternal kingdom.

Paul mentions the Book of Life while addressing faithful believers who had served alongside him in ministry. Rather than defining them by their conflict, mistakes, or shortcomings, Paul reminds them of their eternal identity.

The same is true for us. We may experience failures, disappointments, and struggles, but our greatest identity is found in Christ. Our names are known by God, recorded in His kingdom, and secured through His grace.

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## **Scripture Focus**

### **Philippians 4:3**

*"Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel... whose names are in the book of life."*

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## **Historical Context**

The Book of Life was a familiar image in both Jewish and Roman culture.

Cities often maintained official records of their citizens. Being listed in those records provided rights, privileges, and recognition.

Paul uses this imagery to remind believers that their citizenship is not merely earthly—it is heavenly.

The Book of Life represents those who belong to God and have been redeemed through faith in Christ.

By mentioning the Book of Life, Paul encourages believers to remember that their eternal identity is more important than any temporary disagreement or earthly circumstance.

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## **What This Passage Teaches Us**

### **1. Our Identity Is Found in Christ**

Paul identifies these believers by their relationship with God rather than their disagreements.

The world often defines people by:

- Success
- Failure
- Career
- Wealth

- Reputation
- Past mistakes

God defines His people by their relationship with Him.

### **Supporting Scripture**

*"If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come."*  
— 2 Corinthians 5:17

### **Biblical Example**

Saul the persecutor became Paul the apostle because Christ transformed his identity.

**Reference:** Acts 9

### **Application**

What labels have you allowed to define you instead of your identity in Christ?

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## **2. God Knows His People Personally**

The Book of Life reminds us that God knows us individually.

We are not anonymous to Him.

God knows:

- Our names
- Our struggles
- Our victories
- Our fears
- Our future

## **Supporting Scripture**

*"I have called you by name; you are mine."* — Isaiah 43:1

## **Biblical Example**

Jesus called Zacchaeus by name before ever entering his home.

**Reference:** Luke 19:1-10

## **Application**

How does it encourage you to know that God knows you personally?

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## **3. Our Salvation Is Secure in Christ**

The mention of the Book of Life reminds believers of their eternal hope.

Our confidence is not based on our perfection.

It is based on God's grace through Jesus Christ.

### **Supporting Scripture**

*"Rejoice that your names are written in heaven."* —  
Luke 10:20

### **Biblical Example**

The thief on the cross received assurance of salvation through faith in Jesus.

**Reference:** Luke 23:39-43

### **Application**

Do you find security in your performance or in God's grace?

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## **4. Our Heavenly Citizenship Changes How We Live**

Knowing that our names are written in God's kingdom should shape our priorities.

Believers are called to:

- Live faithfully
- Serve others
- Pursue holiness

- Share the Gospel
- Invest in eternal things

## **Supporting Scripture**

*"But our citizenship is in heaven."* — Philipians 3:20

## **Biblical Example**

Abraham lived by faith because he was looking forward to God's eternal city.

**Reference:** Hebrews 11:10

## **Application**

How would your daily decisions change if you focused more on eternity?

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## **5. God's Family Is Bigger Than Our Differences**

Paul reminds the Philipians that even those involved in conflict share the same eternal identity.

Believers may disagree, but they belong to the same family.

The Gospel unites people who would otherwise be divided.

## **Supporting Scripture**

*"There is one body and one Spirit."* — Ephesians 4:4

## **Biblical Example**

Jewish and Gentile believers were united through Christ despite cultural differences.

**Reference:** Ephesians 2:14-16

## **Application**

How can remembering our shared identity in Christ strengthen relationships?

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## **What the Book of Life Represents**

### **Belonging**

We belong to God.

### **Security**

Our future is in His hands.

### **Citizenship**

We are citizens of heaven.

### **Relationship**

We are known personally by God.

## **Hope**

Eternal life is promised through Christ.

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## **Biblical References to the Book of Life**

### **Moses' Prayer**

Moses referred to God's book containing His people.

**Reference:** Exodus 32:32

### **Lesson:**

God knows His people.

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### **Jesus' Words**

*"Rejoice that your names are written in heaven."*

**Reference:** Luke 10:20

### **Lesson:**

Salvation is our greatest reason for joy.

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## **Revelation**

The Book of Life appears repeatedly as a record of God's redeemed people.

**Reference:** Revelation 21:27

**Lesson:**

God's kingdom is eternal.

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### **Discussion Questions**

1. What does the Book of Life symbolize?
  2. Why is our identity in Christ more important than worldly achievements?
  3. How does knowing God knows you personally strengthen your faith?
  4. What does it mean to be a citizen of heaven?
  5. Why is salvation based on grace rather than performance?
  6. How should eternal security affect our daily lives?
  7. What practical steps help keep our identity rooted in Christ?
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### **Personal Reflection**

Take a few moments to consider:

- What currently defines me?
- Do I find my security in Christ or in achievements?
- How often do I think about my eternal identity?
- Am I living as a citizen of God's kingdom?

Thank God for His grace and the assurance of salvation.

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## **Weekly Challenge**

### **Remember Your Identity**

Each morning declare:

**"I belong to Jesus. My name is written in the Book of Life."**

### **Encourage Others**

Remind another believer of their identity in Christ.

### **Focus on Eternity**

Spend time reading Revelation 21–22 and reflecting on God's promises.

### **Worship**

Thank God daily for the gift of salvation.

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## **Closing Prayer**

**Father, thank You for the incredible gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. Thank You that my identity is not found in my accomplishments, failures, or circumstances, but in belonging to You. Help me live with confidence, knowing my name is written in Your Book of Life. Strengthen my faith, deepen my hope, and remind me each day that my true citizenship is in heaven. May my life reflect the joy and security that come from being part of Your eternal family. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

## **Key Takeaway**

**Our identity is secure because we belong to Christ. When we remember that our names are written in the Book of Life, we can live with confidence, purpose, and hope, knowing that our future is safely held in God's hands.**