Sermon Notes – Philippians 3:7-11

For Memorization – Romans 1:16

"For I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, first for the Jew and then for the Greek."

Death and Resurrection – The Great Story Above All Stories

The Passage	 A Know him and the power of his resurrection B And may share in his sufferings B` Becoming like him in his death A` That I may attain the resurrection of the dead
The Point	Suffering and resurrection are inseparable.
The Pattern	All great stories follow this pattern
The Problem	We only want half of what it means to know Jesus. We want resurrection without death, glory without suffering, gain with no cost.

Sharing Jesus' Suffering

Sharing in His Suffering

The principle is transformation in Christ-likeness as you learn to self-sacrifice which results in a new life that is full of good for others.

"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." – Luke 9:23

"But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministy that I received from the Lord Jesus, – Acts 20:24

Becoming Like Him in His Death

In this passage, Paul frames his own desire to know Jesus after the pattern of the hymn in Phil. 2:6-11...

- Jesus 2:6 Christ was in the "form" (Greek is *morph*) of God
 - 2:7 Christ took the "form" (Greek is morph) of a slave
 - $2{:}8$ Christ obeyed to the point of death
- Paul 3:10 becoming like him (Greek is *morph*) in his death

So What?

Christian life is "cruciform" in nature – "We are shaped by the cross into the shape of the cross."ⁱ This affects every element of our lives.

Our mystical union with Christ will lead us to sharing in his suffering in unpredictable ways as a part of our being conformed to the image of Jesus. Romans 8:29

Do we have to seek out suffering? No, but don't always avoid it. Hebrews 11:25

In Christ, we can expect glory after our suffering.

The Power of His Resurrection

Experiencing the power of his resurrection now

This is related to the loss of all things in verses 7-8.

In the "cross shaped life" you experience his power – he is with you, while you suffer for him, to give you power and joy

Anticipating the final resurrection

ⁱ From the book "Cruciform" by Jimmy Davis