

Philippians 3:9-11

The Immeasurable Value of Knowing Christ

Rootwork

1. **(Everyday)** Before you begin your study time - spend time in prayer! Go through your “yesterday” and ask the Lord to reveal your heart! Prepare your heart and surrender your will to the Spirit of God! Allow Him to have full access by not withholding anything He wants to do in and then do through you!! Make a conscious effort to bow your will and your obedience to the Lord before you even dive in! This prepares your heart to hear and to heed everything He speaks to you!
2. **(Everyday)** Then spend time in adoration and worship after you have cleansed your heart and before you dive into the scriptures!! Proclaiming who God is and adoring Him lifts our eyes up and keeps our focus on what really matters...putting God in His rightful place and putting us in ours! Remember, the enemy is going to try to keep you from being in the Word, he hates when we worship our God- Worship breaks his bondages over believers, so submit to God, resist him and he will flee!!
3. If you were at the “Digging Deeper Workshop” and you would like to structure these scriptures, Copy and paste Philippians 3 into a word/ pages document or write it out verse by verse, following the structuring handouts you received!(if you have not done so already) If you were not there and want to watch it, search “Digging Deeper” on our website or app and watch it for tools to help you in your study time!

4. **(Everyday)** After you finish your Rootwork every day, be sure to spend time in prayer (ACTS) going through what you have learned and received from the Word of God! This is also in your “Digging Deeper” handout.
5. Read the first 11 verses in chapter 3 for context! Take a minute to think about Paul’s frame of mind. What is it about his perspective that challenges you the most?
6. Go back through each verse and be sure to pull out all the attributes of God you can find and record them in your Who Is God journal!
7. This next session is all about relationship...all about the beauty of what Christ has done for us and then our response to that. Paul wrote verses 10-11 in such a way that it feels like a bit of a reflection on his life. What matters most? Take a second and think about your own relationship with the Lord...how is it right now? Where are you at? Is there anything that needs to change?
8. Read Philippians 3:7-8 and write out how Paul’s value system speaks to you.
9. Why was Paul willing to suffer the loss of all things?
10. What does Paul understand that a lot of Christians do not? What do you think is the difference?
11. Read verse 9. Write out the first of the seven things Paul has gained in Christ. Have you ever had a situation where you could relate to being finally found? Finally safe? If so, what happened? How did you feel when you were finally found?

12. From verse 9, what are the other two things that Paul gains in gaining Christ?
13. Contrast the two kinds of righteousness that Paul describes in verse 9.
14. Think back to who Paul was talking about in the previous verses. How does this refute the idea that you have to be born again and adhere to the Mosaic Law and be circumcised?
15. We discussed self-righteousness a bit in the study. Do you struggle with this? If so, what areas do you see where you fall into this tendency?
16. Read Romans 3:10-18, 23-26 slowly as if you have never read it. How does this speak to you personally? Spend some time writing a prayer to the Lord. Maybe it is a prayer of repentance, maybe of thankfulness, maybe of awakening from the numbness toward the gospel. Whatever prayer is on your heart! Do you see what your God has done for you?
17. “Justification solves the problem of man’s guilt before a righteous Judge. Redemption solves the problem of man’s slavery to sin, the world, and the devil. Propitiation solves the problem of offending our Creator and satisfies the justice of God.” – Guzik
18. Write out the third thing that Paul (and you) has gained in gaining Christ, and look up Romans 4:5 and Galatians 2:15-16. Write out your thoughts on each verse. Do you understand the magnitude of what you are reading? What has been given to you?
19. Write out the first five words of verse 10.

20. Look up the word “know,” if you have not done so already, and record its meaning.
21. If anyone knows Christ, it would be Paul...what do you think Paul means by this? Notice how he did not say, “know about God” or “learn more about God.” He said that he may “know God.” Explain your thoughts on this!
22. Do you long to know God or to know God more? If you do, are you willing to do what it takes to know His character, His ways, to know Him intimately, and to be in His presence?
23. Look up the following verses and record your response to each! Then spend time looking up any other verses that refer to seeking God and record what you find. What are God’s thoughts on you seeking Him? What happens when you truly and diligently seek after God?

Psalm 42:1-5

Deuteronomy 4:29

Psalm 14:2

Jeremiah 9:24

1 Chronicles 16:10-11

Proverbs 8:17

Isaiah 55:6-7

Psalms 63:1

Jeremiah 29:11-13

24. As I shared about my father and the last conversations I had with him, what do you think you will be talking about and thinking about at the end of your life? What will matter to you most?
25. This is about a relationship with the God of all creation...it is not a religion, an emotion, or an experience! Read this quote by Leonard Ravenhill and record your thoughts on it: "An experience of God that costs nothing, does nothing, and is worth nothing."
26. Take some time and reflect on the following questions and answer honestly. This is not to make you feel bad or guilty; this is to help you see that the pursuit of everything else but God is wasted, and that seeking Him with your whole heart glorifies Him, honors Him, and fulfills the very purpose for which you are on this earth. However, if you don't reflect on where you are, you will never see where you need to be, and you will never be able to let God conform and convict you. So I am praying with my whole heart, as you join me in this, that we all grow, that we all long for, and that we all passionately pursue loving God, serving God, and knowing God more!!
- Am I seeking and running after God with all that I am?
 - Am I getting as close as I can?

- How do I approach God's Word? Do I approach it as if it is the very response to the last conversation I had with God? Do I approach His Word as if it is His very breath? Or do I read it because I should or because I have to? Is it my last resort or my first pursuit?
- How do I approach prayer? Does my heart long to be in the presence of God so that I pray and seek Him continually? Or do I pray only when I need something or am praying for someone or something?
- How do I approach going to church? Do I come with joy to serve, to glorify the Lord, and to be equipped from the Word of God? Or do I come because it is Sunday and it is what I do? Take a minute and read 1 Corinthians 12:14-20 and Acts 2:42, and write out what the church and the body of Christ are to look like!

27. If you did not like the answer to some of the questions above, that is a good sign! It means you want to do the right thing, and you want to change your perspective! Just remember that God is not like you. He is not disappointed or thinking anything different of you because you still need to grow! (Do you see how crazy that sounds? He knows you need to grow. You will until you step into eternity...but oh, how He is blessed when He knows you want to grow and you want to seek Him.) The first thing to do is go back to seeking, go back to the truth of God's Word! Read this quote from Ravenhill again and write your thoughts. Oh, how powerfully true this is!

“The answer to our dilemma is not a new revelation from heaven. The answer is seeking the old paths and digging out the old wells which superior knowledge, human pride, and flat disobedience have stopped up.” – Ravenhill

28. Now, write out the fifth thing Paul (and we) gained in gaining Christ. Read Ephesians 1:18-21 and Romans 8:11 and record what this power is and just how powerful it is! Where is that power today?
29. What was the sixth thing Paul (and we) gained in gaining Christ? How is this a blessing and a gain?
30. Read Romans 8:16-17 and 1 Peter 4:12-13. What do these verses say about the sufferings of Christ? Have you ever experienced this? If so, how?
31. What is the seventh thing Paul gained in gaining Christ? What does “conform” mean? Can you find other verses that talk about conforming? Record them, their context, and what you learn. Compare and contrast them with this verse. What is Paul saying here?
32. Read verse 11 of Philippians 3. What is Paul’s final goal?
33. Paul longed for the completion of his salvation...do you long for that? We are all between the already and the not yet, but that not-yet glorification is coming soon. Until that day, may we long to know Him more and more, know the power of His resurrection, the fellowship of His sufferings, and be conformed to His death. As we truly walk through these with hunger and passion, I believe that, in the end, we will all have a much clearer perspective—a much clearer vision—not of “Why did this or that happen?” but of who God is! Read Psalm 103, and I want you to pull out God’s attributes for your Who Is God journal as you worship the Lord! Enjoy this intimacy with Him!

34. Below is the note I found that my dad wrote to himself right before he died. I pray it blesses you and challenges you all at the same time!

“I am learning a lot about God...not new, but it is now more real.”

“God will ask us to walk out the message He’s entrusted to us. Some days will be like walking on sunshine—others as if stomping on broken glass...through it all His goodness never changes. His promises never change...neither does our response: “Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.”” — Ron Zaccagnini

Even through the reality of death...I will trust Him, and I will rest in His plan no matter what, until I attain the resurrection from the dead. I will bless the Lord, O my soul!