

Philippians 3:8

Count the Cost, Then Count It as Loss!

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 8 verses in chapter 3 for context! We have had four sessions on these verses—what has been the most impactful as you contemplate the truths that God wants us to grasp through the teachings of Paul?
6. We just stepped out of dealing with our confidence in the flesh. Review what that actually means and review what you have laid down, what you have surrendered of your flesh! What have you been putting confidence in?
7. I asked you to consider something before I even dove into verse 8. I asked you to evaluate the value you put on your relationship with God. Write out, truly, what value or worth you put on your intimacy with the Lord—not what you want or what you think or even what you know to be the right answer...but what you truly live out. Is your time with Him for “when you have time” or “when nothing else is going on”? Really be honest with yourself and evaluate this! Write this out in your journal!
8. Now I want you to look at last week’s Rootwork. I asked you to list out your “resume,” so to speak—what is your pedigree, either by birth or choice? Review your answer! How much value do you place on your own resumé? On your own accomplishments and achievements? Your own reputation?
9. Now compare the two. Which one is of higher value? Sit on this awhile... we are not just exposing idolatry, we are exposing a heart that has settled for earthly gain and forgotten the call of Christ to lay aside everything—all

things—absolutely all things in order to follow Him. This is not a light matter and is one that demands our full attention and full conformity!

10. Now, join me on that hike to the mountain, a stroll on the beach, or on a horseback ride, and let's get a perspective adjustment! Read verses 7–8 slowly and mark all repeated words. Mark all words that stand out and are emphasized!
11. Look up “count” or “counted” in your Blue Letter Bible app. Record what it means.
12. Notice the tenses of the verbs here—past and present! What is Paul saying?
13. Does this challenge you? If so, how?
14. Do you know Him more now than when you first believed?
15. How passionate and thankful are you for Jesus Christ—honestly? Are you more passionate, dedicated, in love with, and surrendered to Him now or when you were a new believer? If not, go back to your first love! Read about the church of Ephesus. Spend time with Him on your knees and love Him for HIM and not for anything else! Surrender your heart to the Lord right now—give Him all of it!!
16. Now read Matthew 19:16–25 slowly as if you have never read it! What new details do you see? What do you see about who Jesus is and His character in these verses?

17. What do you see about the man? Now think of your most prized possession, your closest relationship—is that one thing you would walk away sad for? Walk away grieving because you could not put it down for the sake of following Christ? I know these are really hard questions to answer, but they are the ones Christ calls us to answer! He is either our ALL in ALL or nothing at all! He cannot be just a part of your life—He must be your life!
18. Leonard Ravenhill said it best when he said, “Are the things you are living for worth Christ dying for?” Really think about this! Answer truthfully!
19. Read Luke 14:25–35. What does Jesus say here? Approach this Scripture as it is—the breath of God—and take time to respond to what Jesus is saying!! These are His words and His call! Have you truly counted the cost? Are you His disciple? And if so, how salty are you? Is your whole heart ambition to know Him and make Him known? If not, you have some digging to do! You have some questions to ask! What would be your honest response if Jesus were speaking these words to you personally (because He is)? What would you say to Him? Write this out!
20. In Bible study we talked about how we know who or what our god is by the things we make the most sacrifices for. What do you make the most sacrifices for? Whether you realize it or not, there is a god you are sacrificing to—you put off things for, you cancel meetings for, you make excuses and provisions for...that is your god!
21. Read Matthew 13:44–46. What is Jesus saying here with this parable? Would this identify you—your willingness and desire?

22. Read Philippians 3:8 again. What did Paul count as loss, and in view of what? “In view of” reveals what his eye was fixated on, what his mind was set on, and what his heart was dedicated to! What was it?
23. Wow, what a beautiful conviction! What a perspective shift! Look up “surpassing value.” What is he trying to describe?
24. Does that describe your thoughts of knowing Christ Jesus your Lord?
25. The Blue Letter Bible description does not give this “knowledge” justice—if you look at the Greek and see the intimacy here, it is incredible! Search “gnosis” in biblical Greek online. What do you find? I use Logos, but God has been known to use Google a time or two 😊😂—you can find it on there! I love this—it is not just intellectual (which it also is), but it is deeper than that!
26. Charles Spurgeon says this: “The highest science, the loftiest speculation, the mightiest philosophy which can ever engage the attention of a child of God is the name, the nature, the person, the work, the doings, and the existence of the great God whom he calls his Father.” How does this challenge you? Is this balm to your soul—the thought of knowing God? What a privilege we have!
27. Look up the name “Jesus Christ, and Lord.” Record in your Who Is God journal!! Just in His name...what do you see about who He is? What He has done? Who you are? What you do?

28. What does Paul say he suffered?
29. What was his point in saying this? He not only counted the cost and counted it loss, but he also lost all things! Record what Paul lost and read 2 Corinthians 11:23–28 and record what the cost was.
30. Even after all that, his only point in telling us, is that it does not matter—you cannot even compare it to knowing Christ! It is rubbish!! How does this give you a perspective adjustment?
31. Look up “rubbish” in your Blue Letter Bible app. Again, I did a deep dive on this and the intensity of this word. Record what we talked about in Bible study on the word “rubbish”! Why was this so intense? He was making a very strong statement here—do not look at his resume, his pedigree, what he gave up, what he endured—look at Jesus!! That is what matters! Not only was it worthless and of no value, it was offensive to even consider! What a challenge for you and me! Record your thoughts!
32. Read Luke 13:6–9. How do we get there? How do we stay there and continue to loosen our grip on the things we need to lay down? We need to keep exposing our root system to the Lord, saturating our mind with His Word, falling more and more in love with Him as you know Him more and more! Let the Spirit of God do some digging to tear up the roots that are in our own plans, our own achievements, and our own affections of this life. Allow Him to water and fertilize with the Word of God and the Spirit of God until all you have left is the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus your Lord!!

33. What does Jesus say in Matthew 22:34–40? When we get this right, everything else falls into place! Love Him with every fiber of your being, and you will fulfill the very purpose for which you were created! Has your love grown cold? Have you left your first love? It is time to spend time with the One who holds time and rekindle that love!

34. Look at the end of verse 8—so that what?

35. What has Paul gained in gaining Christ?

36. From Philippians 1:12–14 Bible study we talked about who we are in Christ, and this is what we have gained in gaining Christ positionally! Read the following and worship the Lord through them!!

In Christ Jesus you are a new creation and a daughter of God.

In Christ Jesus you are made righteous before God—substitutionary atonement (justified before God and the righteousness of God in Christ is imputed to you).

In Christ Jesus you are not condemned!

In Christ Jesus you are given grace before the world was created.

In Christ Jesus you are loved by God with an inseparable love.

In Christ Jesus you are redeemed and forgiven for all your sins.

In Christ Jesus you are created for good works—HE gives you purpose!

In Christ Jesus you are alive and freed from the bonds of sin and will be for eternity.

In Christ Jesus you are being sanctified until the coming of the Lord.

In Christ Jesus we are united with one another in one family that works toward a common cause.

37. Now, what have you personally gained by gaining Christ? Not just positionally as outlined above, but in your life—how has your life changed since coming to Christ? Then spend time in worship for the God of all, to graft you in and call you His own!! This demands out praise!!