



July 14, 2019

DIGGING DEEPER

Philippians 3:1-11

The purpose of this document is to help us
take the word beyond our Sunday gathering
and to **think through the practical**
implications of the Scriptures and then to
be intentional about living the word out.

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Confidence In Christ

Philippians 3:1-6; Ephesians 2:11-13; Galatians 5:1-6; John 8:31-41; Genesis 17:9-14

Questions Worth Asking

The Jews were putting their confidence in a covenant that had been completed by Christ. They were willing to choose religion over relationship; the law over love; circumcision over Christ. As a result of their misplaced confidence, the Jews were missing the one they had been waiting for all along. Christ made it clear that we must put our confidence in him and not our accomplishments. The flesh will fail us every time, but faith in the Lord will never falter. Those who put their confidence in Christ will be those who experience a right relationship with the Redeemer. It would be a shame to come so close to the Savior and fall short because we weren't willing to let go of our security blanket(s). We must be willing to put all of our hope in Jesus and Jesus alone. Nothing else and no one else is able to save us.

1. What accomplishments did you look to achieve in hopes of feeling successful and/or accomplished?

Digging Deeper Discussion:

- Why does position, accolades, money, possessions, etc. provide a sense of pride that makes us feel good about ourselves?
- How has this thinking impacted the way you have lived your life and pursued various opportunities?
- How have you felt after achieving the things that were supposed to satisfy?

2. How does trusting in Christ give you confidence to endure life in a crooked and twisted generation?

Digging Deeper Discussion:

- In what ways does Christ's faithfulness help you to be faithful in frightening times?
- How do you sit when you feel the chair will not collapse (consider the spiritual parallels with a firm foundation of Christ)?
- Why would you say Christ is worth trusting even when our feelings are saying something else?

Steps Worth Taking

Here are some steps that will help you to put your confidence in Christ...

1. Cut out one activity that you enjoy that isn't building you up in your faith (i.e. secular music, television show, etc.).
2. Listen to and consider the words to [Living Hope](#) throughout the week.
3. Set aside time this week to spend 15 minutes a day in quiet meditation on the word of God and thinking on his goodness towards you.

Found In Faith

Philippians 3:7-9; Matthew 13:44-46

Questions Worth Asking

Realizing the treasure we have in Christ should compel us to let go of everything else that society says we should hold on to. Paul counted all his accomplishments, of which he had many, as worthless when compared to having an intimate relationship with the Lord. Therefore, he was willing to put all his stock in the Savior and didn't look to identify a plan "B." Paul wanted to be in relationship with Christ and to have his identity wrapped up in the one he was in relationship with. In other words, Paul was all-in on Jesus. He wasn't trying to diversify his portfolio in case the Jesus track didn't work out. It was bond-with-Jesus or bust. If we are going to have an experiential encounter with the Lord that changes our life, we are going to have to do like Jesus and like Paul...give all. If we give up what we've got we will gain what we could never get with all that we've got.

1. Why do people typically feel the need to plan for "failure" rather than success?

Digging Deeper Discussion:

- How has a fear of failure impacted the way you go about pursuing a goal or dealing with a matter?
- How has connecting who we are to what we have done impact the way we see ourselves and carry ourselves around others?
- What type of response(s) have you had when the things you value have been lost (i.e. job loss)? Why?

2. How did the things you put your hope in before trusting Christ with your life affect the way you live your life?

Digging Deeper Discussion:

- What does it look like to have your identity found in Christ?
- What distracts you from holding on to your confidence in Christ?
- How do you measure the value of knowing Christ in a time where we are told to we don't need Jesus?

Steps Worth Taking

Here are some steps that will help you see the value of giving up all to get God...

(Repeat of the above)

1. Cut out one activity that you enjoy that isn't building you up in your faith (i.e. secular music, television show, etc.).
2. Listen to and consider the words to [Living Hope](#) throughout the week.
3. Set aside time this week to spend 15 minutes a day in quiet meditation on the word of God and thinking on his goodness towards you.

Ridiculous ROI

Philippians 3:10-11; Matthew 10:34-39; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20; 1 Corinthians 13:8-13

Questions Worth Asking

The cost to gain Christ may seem like too great a price to pay, but that is only if we don't realize what we get for giving up and what we lose for holding on to what we've got. What we've got can't gain us entrance into a place where there is no pain or tears; the place where the Creator of all things will make himself fully known to us. If we knew that giving up our favorite penny would allow us to get one million dollars, what do you do with that penny? Exactly!!! All that we will ever have in this life doesn't even amount to a penny when compared to becoming co-heirs with Christ. The return on investment (ROI) is ridiculous. As we run the numbers, we shouldn't even hesitate to give all that we have. There is no relationship or possession that is worth holding on to at the risk of losing our treasure. If losing my life for Christ will allow me to find life in Christ, then excuse me as I lay it all down for Jesus and cash in on a ridiculous ROI.

1. What do you need to do to determine whether or not an investment is worth making?

Digging Deeper Discussion:

- What type of push do you make when you realize that you have a special investment on your hands?
- Why do we make excuses for not pursuing something that we believe is valuable?
- What thoughts do you have towards someone who walks away from a sure-fire investment?

3. What has compelled you to be willing to sacrifice something that you considered to be of great value?

Digging Deeper Discussion:

- What is your perception towards valuable things when you are offered something of exceeding greater value?
- When has the possibility of something great caused you to take the risk of walking away from something good (consider the spiritual parallels)?
- What would it take for you to put all your eggs in one basket? (*Is Jesus worth it?*)

Steps Worth Taking

Here are some steps that will help you living with the resurrection in mind...

(Repeat of the above)

1. Cut out one activity that you enjoy that isn't building you up in your faith (i.e. secular music, television show, etc.).
2. Listen to and consider the words to [Living Hope](#) throughout the week.
3. Set aside time this week to spend 15 minutes a day in quiet meditation on the word of God and thinking on his goodness towards you.