

One Thing

Philippians 3:1-17 // Pastor Rob // 1.10.21

Our passage this morning helps us to reflect on what's most important in our lives. In Philippians 3, the Apostle Paul shares some of his story in becoming a follower of Jesus. In particular, there were some things he gave up in order to gain Jesus. There were things he lived for that compared to Jesus were like trash. As we begin a new year, let's examine some of the lesser things we too need to give up and make Jesus our One Thing as we head into 2021.

Group Discussion:

Read Philippians 3:1-17.

What was the context of [Philippians 3](#)? How were some "adding to the gospel?" Can you think of examples in our day of Christians adding extra requirements to believing the gospel?

What did Paul lose for the sake of Christ?

When we think of the righteousness Paul sought to gain from keeping the law with the "okayness" or completeness we all seek from a variety of things we can better understand the lesser things we too need to lose like Paul.

Consider this re-working of [Philippians 3:9](#) for yourself. How would you fill in the blank?

Not having a righteousness (a sense of "okayness" or completeness) of my own that comes from _____ but that which comes through faith in Christ.

Also consider and discuss this quote as well as you seek to fill in this blank for yourself.

*"We are not **what we do**, we are not **what we have**, we are not **what others think of us**. Coming home is claiming the truth. I am the beloved child of a loving creator." -Henri Nouwen*

Share stories from your own lives of things you've lost in order to gain Christ.

How would you describe the "one thing" Paul speaks of in v13? Does he later claim to have obtained this? Why is this significant?

Verse 17 gives us a way to learn how to make Jesus our one thing. Do you have a mentor or someone who can help you follow Jesus? Discuss this in your group.

What needs to change in your life for 2021 to make Jesus your one thing?

Pray: Take time to pray for our nation during this difficult time.

Resources: Josh Garrels video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f0NhZY4Z5PA>