

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM January 2 SERMON

If you missed the sermon, check out biblechapel.org/sermons.

ICEBREAKER: What are your thoughts on New Year's Resolutions? If you do them, would you be willing to share one?

1. **Read Philippians 3:7-11.** Why is Paul willing to “count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord”?
2. **Read Philippians 3:12-14.** How can one forget what lies behind and strain forward to what lies ahead? Discuss what Paul means when he says he is pressing “on toward the goal.”
3. Paul uses the phrase “in Christ” eighty-six times in his letters to describe the believer's position. **Read 2 Corinthians 5:17.** From this passage (and others), what does it mean to be “in Christ?”
4. **Read Philippians 2:1.** Discuss the four spiritual benefits of being in Christ. Which spiritual benefit do you most resonate with and why?

BIBLE REFERENCES

Philippians 3:7-11 ESV

⁷ But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Philippians 3:12-14 ESV

Straining Toward the Goal

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Philippians 2:1 ESV

Christ's Example of Humility

2 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,

Source: biblegateway.com