

## Philippians 1:2-18 Discussion Guide

### General Discussion Questions:

- What statement or illustration from the message stuck out to you and why?
- What attributes of God were on display in the passage?
- What encouraged you?
- What point of action/application did you walk away with?

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### Topics for Discussion:

- The Gospel
- False teachers/ False gospel
- Righteousness
- Imputation
- Grace
- Repentance

### Intro/icebreaker:

- Ask for any good stories about ignoring warning signs or funny warning signs people have seen.
- ⚠ Why are Warning signs important?
- What famous Biblical warnings can you think of?

### Discussion Questions:

? – Why does Paul refer to certain men as Dogs, evildoers, and mutilators!? What were they teaching? Why is Paul “picking a fight” with them?

- *Paul is referring to the false teachers who boasted in their religion, trusted in human attainment rather than divine atonement, trusted in the works of man rather than in the grace of God. They perverted the gospel and substituted something else for the blood of Christ.<sup>1</sup>*

? - What does it mean to have “no confidence in the flesh”

? – Is Paul himself in verse 4? What does he mean, and how does it strengthen the argument of verses 2 and 3?

- What boxes did Paul check?
- What boxes do we try to check?
- Why does this all fall short? ( it all adds up to zero! Paul had all of that but did not have Christ!)

? – How was repentance explained this morning? How does it differ from the usual way we think of repentance? Why are both concepts important?

? - What is the doctrine of imputation? IMPUTATION Means “to place on one’s account” whether as a charge or a credit. The three biblical concepts of imputation are: the sin of Adam is charged to all humanity; the sin of all humanity is charged to Christ; Christ’s righteousness is credited to all who believe on Him.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Edward E. Hindson and Woodrow Michael Kroll, eds., *KJV Bible Commentary* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1994), 2444.

<sup>2</sup> Paul P. Enns, *The Moody Handbook of Theology* (Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1989), 637.

? - Are you trusting in some sort of list? What is the basis of your salvation?

### **Salvation by GRACE ALONE**

Paul wrote: “The one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is reckoned as righteousness (Rom. 4:5) and “man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law (Rom. 3:28). **The Bible clearly states over and over again that works are unable to secure salvation.**

“By the works of the Law no flesh will be justified” (Rom. 3:20, 10:1-4; Gal. 2:16). Salvation is “not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness” (Titus 3:5). God saved us “not according to our works” (2 Tim. 1:9). Salvation is based entirely on God’s doing so “that no man should boast before God” (1 Cor. 1:29; Rom. 4:2).

### **Contrast that with the Council of Trent’s decree concerning justification (canon 9)**

*“If anyone says that the sinner is justified by faith alone,[114] meaning that nothing else is required to cooperate in order to obtain the grace of justification, and that it is not in any way necessary that he be prepared and disposed by the action of his own will, let him be anathema.”*

We understand that **the total cleansing of our sins was performed by the one-time sacrifice of Jesus upon the cross!** (Gal. 2:1-11; 1 John 1:7; Hebrews 9:1-11; Romans 8:1). “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My Word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgement, but has passed out of death into life” (John 5:24).

### **See:**

- Romans 3:20-25, 28; 4:2-5; 10:1-4, 9-10; 11:6
- Galatians 3:10-11
- Ephesians 2:8-9
- Philippians 3:8-9
- 2 Timothy 1:9
- Titus 3:5