

# Stand Firm in Christ

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, May 24, 2020; Steve Thiel

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**Sermon Theme: Standing firm in the faith as a unified body of believers rejects a works-based righteousness approach to salvation and follows Paul's example of humility and perseverance in pressing on toward the goal of knowing Christ Jesus our Lord all the way to eternal glory!**

## **I. Rejoice in the Lord – Philippians 3:1-11**

- A. In what ways is “rejoicing in the Lord” a safeguard to our faith (3:1)? And why does Paul call the Judaizers “dogs”, “evildoers”, and “those who mutilate the flesh” (3:2)?
- B. What sort of things could Paul have boasted in with regard to the works of the Law (3:4-6)?
- C. How did Paul view these worldly things? In comparison, what was his deepest desire (3:7-10)?
- D. What things in life are you having a hard time “counting as loss” in order to know Christ more?

## **II. Persevere in the Lord – Philippians 3:12-21**

- A. What does it mean to “press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God” (3:14)?
- B. How would you describe those who are “mature” in the faith (3:15)? What does that look like?
- C. How would you compare and contrast Paul to the Judaizers he describes in Philippians 3:18-19?
- D. Why do you think Paul reminds the Philippians that their “citizenship is in heaven” (3:20)? How does the reality of eternity motive you in the here and now and what will Christ do when He comes again (3:21)?

## **III. Stand Firm in the Lord – Application flowing from Philippians 4:1**

- A. What distracts you the most from keeping your eyes fixed completely on Christ's return?
- B. What things can you do to grow in “counting all this as rubbish in order to gain Christ”? Are there specific things that tether you to the here and now? What “good things” tend to turn into idols in your life? How would thing about heaven help in letting go of worldly things?
- C. How can you cultivate your relationship with the Lord that you might “know” Him better?