



Community Group Sermon Application Questions- Week of Sunday 11/24

**Philippians 3:1-9:** “The Surpassing Value of Christ Jesus My Lord”

**Central Truth:** Steer clear of the counterfeit gospel of human achievement that will continually arise in our hearts and lives. We gain by losing ourselves and being found in Him.

Begin by reading the passage together. In this passage we see:

**The Fatal Problem and the Sole Solution:**

**Flee from the greatest danger, false confidence in human achievement**

**Run toward the greatest treasure, life in Christ Jesus**

- 1) Who were the dogs, evil workers, and mutilators (v. 2) of the flesh in Paul’s day? What were they trying to do, and why were they so dangerous? How is that same danger relevant to us as Christians today? (See also Galatians 3:1-9 for reference)
- 2) Is it natural for us to point back to our own accomplishments (before AND after becoming a Christian) to try and gain more favor with God? If so, why? What might this temptation reveal about our hearts?
- 3) Consider the 5 sources of false confidence in the flesh found in verses 4-6 (my heritage, my rule-keeping, my knowledge, my passion, my sacrifice). Which source is most enticing to you and why?
- 4) According to verse 3, what are three distinguishing marks of believers in Christ? How do these marks stand against false confidence in the flesh?
- 5) Why do each of us need Christ’s righteousness imputed to us (put inside of us by God when we turn from sin and place our faith in Him)? How does this reality change the way we understand our salvation? How might this truth also affect the assurance of our salvation by before a holy and gracious God?
- 6) Re-read verses 8-9. How does being “found in Christ” empower us to “work out our salvation with fear and trembling” (Phil. 2:12)? How might being “found in Christ” also transform how we experience suffering in our lives?