



Dig Deeper @Home – “The Ascended One”

Complement to sermon on May 8 – Our Source of Joy

MEMORIZE – Philippians 3: 10-11

“that I may know [Christ] and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like Him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.”

READ Philippians 3: 1-21

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What is this passage revealing about God and what is it revealing about us as humans?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life? What will that look like?
3. Paul has no kind words to share in verse 2 about a group of people he refers to as “dogs.” Who were the dogs and why is Paul so opposed to what they promote? (hint: it has to do with circumcision)
4. Why is knowing Christ a far greater value than anything else? (verses 8-10) If knowing Christ is truly a greater value than anything else, what are you doing to “know” Him better? What is Paul saying one should do to know him better?
5. What does it mean to be an “enemy of the cross?” In what ways might you be living as an enemy of the cross?

Bottom Line (give a one or two sentence summary of the scripture you just read):

Experiential

Sometimes activities help us to understand and process biblical truths. The below is one suggestion for how to experience the truths of Philippians 3: 1-11. Feel free to use this one or any you might come up with.

Rejoice in the Lord

Paul says that he is “single-minded” a reference back to how he “regards all things as liabilities compared to the far greater value of knowing Christ Jesus.” He believes this so strongly that he says, “if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that to you also” (v15). Spend time this week in prayer, asking the Lord to reveal any ways in which you might “think” otherwise. When He reveals something, it is invitation to die to self and experience the power of His resurrection. This is not easy, but it will lead to the joy that Paul describes in verse 1 when He says, “Rejoice in the Lord.”

SING (a suggested song to sing. Use this or any song you might want to sing)

Take My Life and Let it Be Consecrated

Hymn 358 in the Mennonite Hymnal. A great hymn reminding us that the purpose of everything we have is for God’s glory and the good of others

My Heart is Yours - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vH89FU7AUy0>

When you sing this song, keep Philippians 3: 1-11 in mind. What you are singing is use my life as a sacrifice for Your glory and the good of others

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and praise reports. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to show up in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Jesus, I bless this group to get to know you in a deeper way. This week may we know your power in such a way that any suffering we encounter, we will do so with joy and gratitude in our hearts. Amen