
CHURCH IN COMMON

COMMON CONFIDENCE—PHILIPPIANS 3:1-16

Open in prayer. Pray that this can be a time which can help you all “press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.”

Icebreaker: What are some things you have treasured or benefited from? Consider not only physical objects but also achievements, honors and privileges.

Read Philippians 3:1-6

This section and the second half of the letter is introduced by verse 1, which sometimes seems a little cut off from what follows it. What is the connection between “Rejoice in the Lord!” and the warnings which immediately follow?

Paul names various credits which once gave him reason to trust in the flesh (v.4-6). What are some accomplishments or aspects of religious or personal heritage that we use to make ourselves acceptable?

What “group-taught traditions” or “boundary markers” do you notice in your own denomination of Christianity?

Read Philippians 3:7-11

What were Paul's "profit" and "loss"?

How do you respond to Paul's statement that "I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord" (v8)?

Read Philippians 3:12-16

What is the goal of Paul's life? What motivates him to keep pressing on toward the goal?

What would it look like for you to take the next step to knowing Christ better?

Thank the Lord for his love for you and that he has taken hold of you. Pray that you will not fall back into trying to accumulate credits with God, but that you will trust in his righteousness. Pray this for those you know who are hesitating to trust Christ for salvation.