

RE-VIEW

Weekly Devotionals

"CHRIST IS ENOUGH"

Philippians 3:1-11

Situation

Most of us think that if life looks organized, steady, and respectable, then we must be doing okay. We try to keep up with work, family, church, and everything else, and we want it to look like we have it all together.

But underneath all of that, there is still a question every one of us has to answer: **what are you really trusting in?** It is possible to have a good job, a nice house, a strong family, a respectable reputation, and a fairly disciplined life, and still not be resting in Christ.

In a place like Plano, where so much of life is built around excellence, achievement, and maintaining a certain standard, Philippians 3 comes straight at us. Paul tells us that all the things people usually lean on heritage, morality, religion, performance, even spiritual success cannot give us the righteousness we need before God. Only Christ can do that.

The warning in this chapter matters because false teaching always tries to add something to Jesus. It says Christ is good, but not enough. It says grace is fine, but you still need to add your own contribution. That is not the gospel.

Scripture

ReVisit - **Philippians 3:1-11 (NLT):**

Whatever happens, my dear brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. I never get tired of telling you these things, and I do it to safeguard your faith.

2 Watch out for those dogs, those people who do evil, those mutilators who say you must be circumcised to be saved. **3** For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort, **4** though I could have confidence in my own effort if anyone could. Indeed, if others have reason for confidence in their own efforts, I have even more!

5 I was circumcised when I was eight days old. I am a pure-blooded citizen of Israel and a member of the tribe of Benjamin—a real Hebrew if there ever was one! I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law. **6** I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault.

7 I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. **8** Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ **9** and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith. **10** I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, **11** so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!

Supporting Scriptures for further reading:

- **Philippians 1:3 to 11**
- **Acts 15:1 to 19**
- **2 Corinthians 5:21**
- **Romans 3:21 to 26**
- **Galatians 2:16**
- **Ephesians 2:8 to 10**
- **Isaiah 64:6**
- **Colossians 2:6 to 15**
- **2 Timothy 1:8 to 10**

Truth

The main truth of this passage is simple: Christ is enough. Paul shows us that heritage, morality, discipline, religion, and even spiritual achievement cannot make a sinner right with God. Only Jesus can do that.

Paul begins by warning the church about those who tried to add requirements to the gospel. In his day, that meant insisting Gentile believers had to become Jewish before they could be saved. The issue was not merely a ritual. The issue was whether salvation is by grace alone or by grace plus human effort.

Paul says true believers rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. That is the heart of Christianity. Real Christians do not boast in themselves. They do not trust their spiritual résumé. They rest in Christ alone.

Then Paul gives his own résumé, and it is impressive. If anyone could have built confidence on religious achievement, it was Paul. But he says all of it is worthless compared with knowing Christ. That is not because those things were evil in themselves, but because they could never do what only Jesus can do.

The gospel is not us climbing up to God. It is Christ coming down to save us. **Justification means God declares sinners righteous because of Christ, not because of their works.** That is the glorious exchange. Jesus takes our sin. We receive His righteousness.

Then Paul says he wants to know Christ. That is more than information. It is deep relationship, growing communion, and real fellowship with the risen Lord. He wants the power of Christ's resurrection, and he is willing to share in Christ's sufferings. True Christianity is not a pain free life. It is a Christ centered life.

Finally, Paul points to resurrection hope. The story does not end with weakness, aging, suffering, or death. It ends with new life and glory in Christ.

Application

This passage asks us a very honest question: **where is your confidence?**

It is easy to trust in things that look good. We trust our background, our habits, our reputation, our church involvement, our morality, our serving, or our spiritual discipline. But Paul says none of those can carry the weight of our salvation.

So ask yourself whether there is something you have been using as proof that you are okay with God. If the answer is yes, bring that to Jesus. He is not asking you to improve the old foundation. He is calling you to trust Him alone.

If you are a believer, this passage is not just the way you enter the Christian life. It is the way you keep living it. You do not grow by moving beyond grace. You grow by going deeper into grace. Every day, you can rest in what Christ has already done for you.

That means self condemnation does not get the last word. Shame does not get the last word. Your past does not get the last word. Christ gets the last word.

It also means spiritual maturity is not measured by performance alone. Paul wanted to know Christ, not just impress people. A mature believer keeps pressing in. He keeps longing for Jesus. He keeps asking for deeper faith, greater holiness, and stronger hope.

And when suffering comes, this passage helps us remember that even suffering can draw us closer to Christ. The Christian life is not about ease. It is about knowing Jesus. That is a treasure worth more than anything else.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You that You are enough. Forgive us for the times we have trusted in ourselves, our achievements, our background, or our religious habits instead of trusting fully in You.

Teach us to rejoice in You, to rest in Your righteousness, and to count everything else as loss compared with knowing You. Give us hearts that hunger for deeper fellowship with You. Make us people who long for Your power, walk in Your grace, and follow You even when the path includes suffering.

Help us stop trying to prove ourselves and start resting in what You have already done. Shape our lives so that confidence is in Christ alone. And keep our eyes fixed on the resurrection hope we have in You.

In Jesus, in whose name we pray.

-Amen

