

WORTH IT

PHILIPPIANS 3:8-9

X

Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith.

 RACINE BIBLE
CHURCH

www.racinebible.org/youth

NAME:

Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith.

Philippians 3:8-9



IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER

Project Serve (High School)
October 4th - 7th
Fort Wilderness

Scatteration

Wednesday, October 17th
6:00pm - 8:30pm
*Location determined by small group.

NOVEMBER

NO Youth Group
Wednesday, November 21st

DECEMBER

Youth Group Christmas Party
Wednesday, December 19th
6:00pm - 8:30pm

NO ABF Class

Sunday, December 23rd

NO Youth Group

Wednesday, December 26th

NO ABF Class

Sunday, December 30th

JANUARY

NO Youth Group
Wednesday, January 2

CrossCon (High School)
January 2nd - 5th

Fort Wilderness Retreat
January 31st - February 3rd

FEBRUARY

Fort Wilderness Retreat
January 31st - February 3rd

NO ABF Class

Sunday, February 3rd

Project Serve (High School)
February 14th - 17th
Fort Wilderness

APRIL

Easter Brunch
Sunday, April 21st
*Combined MS/HS ABF @10:45am

Scatteration

Wednesday, April 24th
*Location determined by small group.



BIBLE READING PLAN

No spiritual discipline is more important than the intake of God's word. Nothing can substitute for it. In the Bible God tells us about Himself, and especially about Jesus Christ, the incarnation of God. We find in Scripture how God wants us to live, and what brings the most joy and satisfaction in life. None of this eternally essential information can be found anywhere else except the Bible.

- Donald S. Whitney

SEPTEMBER

10	Luke 1	16	Luke 7	22	Luke 13	28	Luke 19
11	Luke 2	17	Luke 8	23	Luke 14	29	Luke 20
12	Luke 3	18	Luke 9	24	Luke 15	30	Luke 21
13	Luke 4	19	Luke 10	25	Luke 16		
14	Luke 5	20	Luke 11	26	Luke 17		
15	Luke 6	21	Luke 12	27	Luke 18		

OCTOBER

1	Luke 22	9	Acts 6	17	Acts 14	25	Acts 22
2	Luke 23	10	Acts 7	18	Acts 15	26	Acts 23
3	Luke 24	11	Acts 8	19	Acts 16	27	Acts 24
4	Acts 1	12	Acts 9	20	Acts 17	28	Acts 25
5	Acts 2	13	Acts 10	21	Acts 18	29	Acts 26
6	Acts 3	14	Acts 11	22	Acts 19	30	Acts 27
7	Acts 4	15	Acts 12	23	Acts 20	31	Acts 28
8	Acts 5	16	Acts 13	24	Acts 21		

NOVEMBER

1	Galatians 1	9	Titus 3	17	1 Thessalonians 2	25	1 John 1
2	Galatians 2	10	Ephesians 1	18	1 Thessalonians 3	26	1 John 2
3	Galatians 3	11	Ephesians 2	19	1 Thessalonians 4	27	1 John 3
4	Galatians 4	12	Ephesians 3	20	1 Thessalonians 5	28	1 John 4
5	Galatians 5	13	Ephesians 4	21	Colossians 1	29	1 John 5
6	Galatians 6	14	Ephesians 5	22	Colossians 2	30	Philemon 1
7	Titus 1	15	Ephesians 6	23	Colossians 3		
8	Titus 2	16	1 Thessalonians 1	24	Colossians 4		

DECEMBER

1	Matthew 1	9	Matthew 9	17	Matthew 17	25	Matthew 25
2	Matthew 2	10	Matthew 10	18	Matthew 18	26	Matthew 26
3	Matthew 3	11	Matthew 11	19	Matthew 19	27	Matthew 27
4	Matthew 4	12	Matthew 12	20	Matthew 20	28	Matthew 28
5	Matthew 5	13	Matthew 13	21	Matthew 21	29	2 Thessalonians 1
6	Matthew 6	14	Matthew 14	22	Matthew 22	30	2 Thessalonians 2
7	Matthew 7	15	Matthew 15	23	Matthew 23	31	2 Thessalonians 3
8	Matthew 8	16	Matthew 16	24	Matthew 24		

JANUARY

1	Hebrews 1	9	Hebrews 9	17	1 Corinthians 3	25	1 Corinthians 11
2	Hebrews 2	10	Hebrews 10	18	1 Corinthians 4	26	1 Corinthians 12
3	Hebrews 3	11	Hebrews 11	19	1 Corinthians 5	27	1 Corinthians 13
4	Hebrews 4	12	Hebrews 12	20	1 Corinthians 6	28	1 Corinthians 14
5	Hebrews 5	13	Hebrews 13	21	1 Corinthians 7	29	1 Corinthians 15
6	Hebrews 6	14	3 John 1	22	1 Corinthians 8	30	1 Corinthians 16
7	Hebrews 7	15	1 Corinthians 1	23	1 Corinthians 9	31	Fort Devotion
8	Hebrews 8	16	1 Corinthians 2	24	1 Corinthians 10		

FEBRUARY

1	Fort Devotion	8	John 5	15	John 12	22	John 19
2	Fort Devotion	9	John 6	16	John 13	23	John 20
3	Fort Devotion	10	John 7	17	John 14	24	John 21
4	John 1	11	John 8	18	John 15	25	Philippians 1
5	John 2	12	John 9	19	John 16	26	Philippians 2
6	John 3	13	John 10	20	John 17	27	Philippians 3
7	John 4	14	John 11	21	John 18	28	Philippians 4

MARCH

1	Romans 1	9	Romans 9	17	2 Timothy 1	25	James 5
2	Romans 2	10	Romans 10	18	2 Timothy 2	26	1 Peter 1
3	Romans 3	11	Romans 11	19	2 Timothy 3	27	1 Peter 2
4	Romans 4	12	Romans 12	20	2 Timothy 4	28	1 Peter 3
5	Romans 5	13	Romans 13	21	James 1	29	1 Peter 4
6	Romans 6	14	Romans 14	22	James 2	30	1 Peter 5
7	Romans 7	15	Romans 15	23	James 3	31	Jude 1
8	Romans 8	16	Romans 16	24	James 4		

APRIL

1	Mark 1	9	Mark 9	17	2 Corinthians 1	25	2 Corinthians 9
2	Mark 2	10	Mark 10	18	2 Corinthians 2	26	2 Corinthians 10
3	Mark 3	11	Mark 11	19	2 Corinthians 3	27	2 Corinthians 11
4	Mark 4	12	Mark 12	20	2 Corinthians 4	28	2 Corinthians 12
5	Mark 5	13	Mark 13	21	2 Corinthians 5	29	2 Corinthians 13
6	Mark 6	14	Mark 14	22	2 Corinthians 6	30	2 John 1
7	Mark 7	15	Mark 15	23	2 Corinthians 7		
8	Mark 8	16	Mark 16	24	2 Corinthians 8		

MAY

1	Revelation 1	9	Revelation 9	17	Revelation 17	25	1 Timothy 3
2	Revelation 2	10	Revelation 10	18	Revelation 18	26	1 Timothy 4
3	Revelation 3	11	Revelation 11	19	Revelation 19	27	1 Timothy 5
4	Revelation 4	12	Revelation 12	20	Revelation 20	28	1 Timothy 6
5	Revelation 5	13	Revelation 13	21	Revelation 21	29	2 Peter 1
6	Revelation 6	14	Revelation 14	22	Revelation 22	30	2 Peter 2
7	Revelation 7	15	Revelation 15	23	1 Timothy 1	31	2 Peter 3
8	Revelation 8	16	Revelation 16	24	1 Timothy 2		

ABF SNACK LIST

Date	HS Snack	MS Snack
September 16	Samuel and Aaron Bose	Brandon and Cameron Beauford
September 23	Floyd and Holly Eck	Rebekah and William Black
September 30	Jared and Madelyn Jamel	Eliana Jamel/Megan Beth
October 7	Micah and Ian Purdy	Jonathon Kosinski/Sydney Bubnich
October 14	Calvin Struebing/Molly Bryson	Carter and Andrew Struebing
October 21	Josh Willems and Joshua Peters	Andrew and Jonathon Nichols
October 28	Thalia and Tati Contreras	Luke Stock/Ava Jerde
November 4	Izzy and Hannah Kalashian	Jacob Kalashian/Allie Owczarzak
November 11	Erica and Emily Saunders	Ethan Saunders/Abigail Schmidt
November 18	Natalie Vollendorf/Emily Thieme	Bria and Luke Wright
November 25	Micah and Sydney Anderson	Sophie Tucker/Naomi Rae Truchon
December 2	Sam Beilgard/Julia Schook	MacKenzy Schook/Avery Westcomb
December 9	Tommy and Tyler Cook	Jeremiah Cook/Kaleigh Shanahan
December 16	Tyler and Isaac Friese	Elizabeth and Will Spang
December 23	None--No ABF	None--No ABF
December 30	None--No ABF	None--No ABF
January 6	Ben and Harley Gehrand	William Gehrand/Gavyn Sura
January 13	Kevin Hall/Grace Dickinson	Sarah Dickinson/Naomi Pederson
January 20	Ambrose and Viggo Nelson	Gabriella and Evelyn Neideffer
January 27	Caleb and Josh Shumway	Jorja Makovsky/Benjamin LaCasse
February 3	None--Fort Retreat	None--Fort Retreat
February 10	James Tubbs/Mallory Farmer	Kiara and Logan Larrabee
February 17	Clayton and Rachel Wallace	Daniel Wallace/Brandon Jaeschke
February 24	Justin W./Abby Lovdahl	Reagan LaPointe/Omar Flores
March 3	Chase W./Gabrielle Shimada	Meredith Shimada/Noah Miller
March 10	Tommy Rouse/Jordan Tuinstra	Jackie Rouse/Carly Tuinstra
March 17	David Barrera/Ella Druktenis	Ava Druktenis/Bobby Barrera
March 24	Grace and Ashley Hanel	Nathan Hanel/Diego Torres
March 31	Luke Bowers/Selestine Roe	Noelle and Taryn Bowers
April 7	Logan and Mikayla Crum	Molly Crum/Ian Woodward
April 14	Abby and Ben Erickson	Maddy Erickson/Baylee Bissett
April 21	Easter Brunch	Easter Brunch
April 28	John Goines/Austin Lowell	Christian Goines/Ashlyn Lowell
May 5	Carter and Cami Lowman	Savannah Lowman/Hailey Ricketts
May 12	Juan Antonio Cruz/Brooklyn Cain	Gavin and Caleb Cain
May 19	Tyler Johnson/Ben Wohlgemuth	Leah Hanson/Bella Seyferth
May 26	Jescinda Gomez/Holly Orth	Brandon Orth/Hope Rogowski
June 2	Isabela Ross/Random Person	Amelia and Josephine Scharrer
June 9	None--Church Picnic	None--Church Picnic
June 16	Samuel Bose/Molly Bryson	Blake and Ella Krauter
June 23	Floyd Eck/Thalia Contreras	Papa Krum/Random Person
June 30	Jared Jamel/Abby Erickson	Pete and Megan Miller
July 7	Micah Purdy and Louisa Goeke	Cameron and Megan Walley
July 14	Cavin Struebing/Izzy Kalashian	Jeremiah Bose/Kathy Haumersen
July 21	Josh Willems/Erica Saunders	Michael Wallace/Josh Oezer
July 28	Brandon M./Naduah S.	Kristiana Hegyera/Bethany LaPointe
August 4	Grace VanPetersom/Natalie V.	Caleb Beilgard/Maddi Druktenis
August 11	Emily Thieme/Irene	Chris Varebrook/Chrissy Struebing
August 18	Ripley Leftovers	Ripley Leftovers

WORTH IT

PHILIPPIANS 3:8-9



Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith.

Studies in Galatians and Philippians

THE UNIQUENESS OF THE GOSPEL

SEPTEMBER 19, 2018 – GALATIANS 1:1-10

[1] Paul, an apostle—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—[2] and all the brothers who are with me, To the churches of Galatia: [3] Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, [4] who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, [5] to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

[6] I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—[7] not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. [8] But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. [9] As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

[10] For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. The Gospel isn't just about the past (the cross/our sins forgiven) or the future (heaven)—it includes both of those. And the Gospel message is about saving you from "this present evil age" (v. 4). What do you need saving from every day? What tempts you from this "age"? How does the Gospel save you from it?
2. There is a tendency in all of us to drift away from Jesus and from the truth (v. 6). This is why we need the Gospel every day. How would you summarize the Gospel message? How does Paul in v. 1-5?
3. The Galatians began to distort the Gospel message (v. 7) by adding in extra rules to following Jesus. What happens if you get the message of Jesus, the Gospel, wrong?
4. Paul makes it clear that he isn't trying to please people (and make them happy), he wants God's approval more than other people's approval of him. 1-10, where are you in wanting people's approval vs God's approval?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOD'S AMAZING GRACE

SEPTEMBER 26, 2018 – GALATIANS 1:11-24

[11] For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel. [12] For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. [13] For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it. [14] And I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. [15] But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace, [16] was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone; [17] nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

[18] Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and remained with him fifteen days. [19] But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother. [20] (In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie!) [21] Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia. [22] And I was still unknown in person to the churches of Judea that are in Christ. [23] They only were hearing it said, "He who used to persecute us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy." [24] And they glorified God because of me.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. Here, Paul writes about how God saved him. God saved Paul from the horribleness of his sin (v. 13-14, 23). Paul's sin shows no one is too sinful for God to save and forgive. Do you ever feel too guilty over sin? Do you see the awfulness of your own sin like Paul does?
2. God saved Paul long before Paul was alive (v. 15) through choosing Paul to be His. What should it make you feel to know God chose you even before you were born?
3. Where did Paul hear the Gospel and get his training (v. 17-18, Acts 9.1-9)? Why is this important?
4. Paul grew up in religion, trying to do a bunch of good things to earn salvation from God (v. 14). Many of you grew up in church, trying to do a bunch of good things. What's the difference between doing good to earn salvation and doing good because you are saved?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL UNITY

OCTOBER 3, 2018 – GALATIANS 2:1-10

[1] Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. [2] I went up because of a revelation and set before them (though privately before those who seemed influential) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain. [3] But even Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek. [4] Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery—[5] to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you. [6] And from those who seemed to be influential (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those, I say, who seemed influential added nothing to me. [7] On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised [8] (for he who worked through Peter for his apostolic ministry to the circumcised worked also through me for mine to the Gentiles), [9] and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. [10] Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. Paul talks about how, while he was preaching the Gospel to Gentiles, and the other apostles were preaching to Jews, they met up to ensure they were both preaching the same, accurate, true Gospel from Jesus (v. 7-9). How can you review the Gospel every day to make sure you are accurately remembering and living out the truth?
2. People who said they were Christians, but actually had a bogus message were in the church adding rules to salvation (like circumcision or eating kosher food). Why is adding anything to salvation so dangerous? Did Paul compromise (v. 5)?
3. In this world, some people are more popular/have more influence and some have less. It makes no difference to God, which you are (v. 6), God has no partiality. Instead, God calls you to be faithful to Him, regardless of popularity. How faithful to Him are you living?
4. True followers of Jesus don't need to worry about circumcision or eating certain foods (Jewish customs), but true followers of Jesus care about needy believers (v. 10). How do you care for needy believers around you?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

LIVING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

OCTOBER 10, 2018 – GALATIANS 2:11-21

[11] But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. [12] For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party. [13] And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. [14] But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?" [15] We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; [16] yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified. [17] But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! [18] For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor. [19] For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. [20] I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. [21] I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. Paul confronts Peter for being a hypocrite. Peter believed the Gospel (salvation is by faith in Jesus), but then was living like he still needed to obey Jewish laws. How have you seen people who claim to be Christians live in hypocrisy? How do you need to live in line with the Gospel?
2. When is it good to call out another Christian (v. 11)? When have you? How did it go?
3. Paul tells us that people who say they are saved, but continue living in sinful lifestyles (with no repentance) prove they never really grasped the Gospel (v. 17-18). Have you known anyone like this?
4. Paul reminds Peter this Gospel truth: You died to the law (v. 19) as a way to be saved—you can't be saved by keeping God's laws. We are saved because Jesus took our punishment ("crucified with Jesus" v. 20) and now Jesus' righteousness is ours! If we are totally saved and totally forgiven, why would we obey God (v. 20)?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL

OCTOBER 24, 2018 – GALATIANS 3:1-22

[1] O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. [2] Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? [3] Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? [4] Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? [5] Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith—[6] just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”? [7] Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. [8] And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” [9] So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

[10] For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.” [11] Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “The righteous shall live by faith.” [12] But the law is not of faith, rather “The one who does them shall live by them.” [13] Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”—[14] so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith. [15] To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified. [16] Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, “And to offsprings,” referring to many, but referring to one, “And to your offspring,” who is Christ. [17] This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. [18] For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise.

[19] Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. [20] Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one. [21] Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. [22] But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

Questions

1. This is a difficult text, but the message is so important: We don't just 'get saved' by the Gospel, the way we grow as a Christian is by the Gospel. The Gospel is not a list of dos and don'ts, the Gospel is what Jesus has done. In v. 1, Paul reminds them that at conversion, they embraced Jesus and knew what he had done for them. Is this you? How do you know?
2. How was Abraham saved (v. 6)? What does this show the Galatians, who weren't Jews and lived 1500 years after Abraham (v. 8-9)? What does this show us?
3. 'Trying harder' to obey as a Christian doesn't work—it's like cutting the top off of a dandelion—it looks good on the outside, but doesn't fix the root problem. Instead, we need to repent, believe the Gospel, and walk by the Spirit. How can looking to Jesus enable us to obey?
4. Jesus died for us, because there was no other way that we could be saved—no law that we could obey and be good enough for God (v. 21). How should this impact our worship of Jesus?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

CHILDREN OF GOD

OCTOBER 31, 2018 – GALATIANS 3:23-4:7

[23] Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. [24] So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. [25] But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, [26] for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. [27] For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. [28] There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. [29] And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

[1] I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, [2] but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. [3] In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. [4] But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, [5] to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. [6] And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” [7] So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. Paul describes the law (like the Ten commandments) as being a prison guard (v. 23) and a tutor (v. 24). What do these two illustrations mean?
2. Now that we are saved, Paul says that we are clothed with Christ (“putting on Christ” v. 27). This means a few things: (1) our primary identity is in Christ, (2) our closeness to Jesus, (3) our imitation of Jesus, and (4) our acceptance by God. Which means the most to you? Why?
3. What is the difference between Bill Gates' son and Bill Gates' butler's son? One is an heir to billions, one has to get a job to scratch out a living. Paul says Christians are heirs (v. 1), what does he mean?
4. While we are officially God's children, we don't experience all of heaven yet. One part of life we do experience is the Holy Spirit in us, (v. 6). Paul says having the Spirit in you gives you a desire for God, quickness to pray, a sense of God's presence, and assurance of God's love (v. 6-7). Do you experience any of this? How?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

CHRIST FORMED IN YOU

NOVEMBER 7, 2018 – GALATIANS 4:8-31

[8] Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. [9] But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more? [10] You observe days and months and seasons and years! [11] I am afraid I may have labored over you in vain. [12] Brothers, I entreat you, become as I am, for I also have become as you are. You did me no wrong. [13] You know it was because of a bodily ailment that I preached the gospel to you at first, [14] and though my condition was a trial to you, you did not scorn or despise me, but received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. [15] What then has become of your blessedness? For I testify to you that, if possible, you would have gouged out your eyes and given them to me. [16] Have I then become your enemy by telling you the truth? [17] They make much of you, but for no good purpose. They want to shut you out, that you may make much of them. [18] It is always good to be made much of for a good purpose, and not only when I am present with you, [19] my little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you! [20] I wish I could be present with you now and change my tone, for I am perplexed about you. [21] Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? [22] For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. [23] But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. [24] Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. [25] Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. [26] But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. [27] For it is written, "Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband." [28] Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. [29] But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. [30] But what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman." [31] So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

Questions

1. This is another difficult text. What things in this world are you tempted to be enslaved to (v. 8)? What 'idols' do you go to for happiness, pleasure, hope or life?
2. Paul tells us how we can be free of insecurity. How? Know that God knows everything about you (even the worst things) and yet, loved you so much, He sent Jesus to die for you (v. 9). How should this truth radically change your life?
3. What strikes you about Paul's tone in v. 11, 16, and 19? What do you think he is feeling? Do you ever feel this about your friends/family? Who do you think feels this way about you?
4. Paul's goal is different than the false teacher's goal. They want people to love them and follow them (v. 17), Paul wants people to love Jesus and follow Jesus (v. 19). What do you care more about?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL FREEDOM

NOVEMBER 14, 2018 – GALATIANS 5:1-15

[1] For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. [2] Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. [3] I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. [4] You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. [5] For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. [6] For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love. [7] You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? [8] This persuasion is not from him who calls you. [9] A little leaven leavens the whole lump. [10] I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is. [11] But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. [12] I wish those who unsettle you would emasculate themselves! [13] For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. [14] For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." [15] But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. What is the only thing that counts in the Christian life (v. 6)? Faith isn't just a one-time decision, it changes how you live. What does faith look like lived out (v. 6)?
2. We all need a kick in the pants like v. 7. Who is/are 1-2 people in your life who are in spiritual authority over you—who can call you out and you actually listen and do what they say?
3. God's grace is so incredible—all our sin (past/present/future/seen/unseen/big/small) is forgiven. What could this tempt us to do (v. 13)? What should we use our new freedom for (v. 13)? What are we 'freed' from?
4. Talk about the relationships in your life (siblings, parents, friends, non-Christians). How are you doing at obeying v. 14? How does verse 13 give gospel perspective on loving others?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL CHARACTER

NOVEMBER 28, 2018 – GALATIANS 5:16-26

[16] But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. [17] For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. [18] But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. [19] Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, [20] idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, [21] envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. [22] But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, [23] gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. [24] And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. [25] If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. [26] Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. What is going on inside every Christian (v. 16-17)? What is encouraging about this? What is discouraging about this?
2. How does a Christian's battle of flesh vs Spirit differ from a non-Christian deciding from right and wrong?
3. The list of sins is long, take some time to talk about what each means. The list includes both sins of religious, 'good' people and sins of the worldly, 'bad' people. Break the list down in your group. What 1-2 sins is strongest in your flesh?
4. Those who live by the desires in v. 19-21 in unrepentance will enter hell (v. 21). What is repentance? How would you define it?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL WAR

DECEMBER 5, 2018 – GALATIANS 5:16-26

[16] But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. [17] For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. [18] But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. [19] Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, [20] idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, [21] envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. [22] But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, [23] gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. [24] And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. [25] If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. [26] Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. What are two of the characteristics of people who are Christians (v. 18)? How have you seen the Spirit lead (or transform) you (v. 18)?
2. Talk about the fruit of the Spirit and what they are in someone's life (v. 22-23). Which ones are lacking the most in you?
3. So, how do we get more of the fruit in our lives? Three things, Paul says. First, remember you belong to God (v. 24). How can you do this?
4. Second, Paul says, crucify the sinful desires in your heart/desires (v. 24). This is NOT just trying to stop sinning, but killing the desire or motivation for sin in your heart. What does this look like?
5. Third, we must keep in step with the Spirit (v. 25). Put yourself in positions where the Spirit can grow your love for Jesus. What ideas do you have for this?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL RELATIONSHIPS

DECEMBER 12, 2018 – GALATIANS 6:1-10

[1] Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. [2] Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. [3] For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. [4] But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. [5] For each will have to bear his own load.

[6] Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. [7] Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. [8] For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. [9] And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. [10] So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. When someone in youth group is in sin, what are you to do (v. 1)? What does this look like? Have you ever done this? Why does Paul warn that we could be tempted (v. 1)?
2. Who is the most helpful person in your small group at living out v. 2? What are some ways you can help people 'bear their burdens'? How can you get better at it? (Note: Paul is telling us to care for each other's burdens—extra heavy difficulties or problems we have, like trials, temptations, or suffering. In v. 5, Paul tells us that we will each be responsible for what our 'load'. This isn't contradicting v. 2. Instead, here in v. 5, load means the routine responsibilities God gives to every believer.)
3. What does it mean to sow and reap (v. 7-8)? What's an example of sowing to the Spirit and sowing to the flesh? How can you see older people reaping what they've sown?
4. Verse 9 is especially important for youth group. It can be hard to wait when sowing to the Spirit (and waiting to reap). It can be easy to give up and sin and live like the world. Paul encourages us to not give up. Why not (v. 8)?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL BOASTING

JANUARY 9, 2019 – GALATIANS 6:11-18

[11] See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. [12] It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who would force you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. [13] For even those who are circumcised do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. [14] But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. [15] For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. [16] And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. [17] From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. [18] The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. How was your Christmas/New Years break? Did you grow in Jesus? How?
2. What is the only thing that counts in regards to salvation? Being circumcised? Going to church? Reading your Bible? Going to Fort? Having Christian parents? Praying a prayer? Not doing bad sins? Or a new creation (transformed life) by grace through faith? Why? Is this you?
3. Paul's boasting in v. 14 is loudly remembering the reality of your status in Jesus. You don't need to live for the world, you don't need to live by old desires, you don't need the world's approval because Jesus lives in you, Jesus is transforming you, and Jesus approves of you. What radical differences should this make in your life—boasting in the cross?
4. What does God think of you—look up the verses and write down answers:

1 Peter 1.23	Rom 8.17
Eph 1.7	Col 2.10
2 Cor 5.17	Gal 2.20
1 Cor. 6.19	Eph 2.19
Col 1.13	2 Cor 5.21
Gal 3.13	Phil 1.6
Gal 3.9	Col 3.12
Eph 1.4	1 Peter 1.4-5
Rom 8.37	John 5.24

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL PRAYER

JANUARY 16, 2019 – PHILIPPIANS 1:1-11

[1] Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons: [2] Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

[3] I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, [4] always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, [5] because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. [6] And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. [7] It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. [8] For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. [9] And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, [10] so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, [11] filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. Paul starts the letter on a very thankful note—why (v. 3-5)? Do you thank God for salvation and growth in others? How can you do this?
2. What hope do we have when our passion for Jesus runs low or we are feel 'stuck' spiritually (v. 6)? What should this verse do? How do you see God finishing the work of Christlikeness in others in your small group?
3. Break down this amazing prayer from Paul and then pray it for each other:
 - 1: Love would grow/abound more and more (v. 9)
 - 2: Love would be guided by wisdom and discernment (v. 9)
 - 3: Wisdom would show them how to make right choices (v. 10)
 - 4: These right choices would make them holy and blameless (v. 10)
 - 5: This holiness would come out of their life (v. 11)
 - 6: God would be glorified by their holy life (v. 11)
4. What stands out about Paul's prayer? What step do you need to grow in?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL MOTIVES

JANUARY 23, 2019 – PHILIPPIANS 1:12-20

[12] I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, [13] so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. [14] And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. [15] Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. [16] The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. [17] The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. [18] What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice, [19] for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, [20] as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. We often look at situations and determine if they are good or bad based on our comfort level or success level or happiness level. Paul doesn't—he looks at life as good or bad based on if the Gospel is advanced deeper and to more people (v. 12). How can you look at life this way?
2. Paul's boldness for the Gospel did what in other people's lives (v. 14)? What could your example do for others?
3. Each of us face people who criticize us or would try to afflict us in a negative way (v. 17). That doesn't steal Paul's joy though, he rejoices (v. 18). How? How can you not have your joy stolen?
4. Is v. 20 true of you? Is this your goal? Is this your eager expectation? Is Jesus always honored by your life (or death)? Explain.

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL DESIRES

JANUARY 30, 2019 – PHILIPPIANS 1:21-26

[21] For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. [22] If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. [23] I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. [24] But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. [25] Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, [26] so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. What is shocking about v. 21? How can it be true (v. 22-23)? Do you believe this?
2. One of the greatest realities that a Christian has is what will happen to us after we die—it will be great gain and better by far (v. 21, 23). People who do not have Jesus do NOT have this hope. How should this affect our: boldness? Confidence? Evangelism? Missions? Obedience?
3. Think about being with Christ in heaven. What are some of the reasons why heaven will be great? What is the best 'gain' we will get from being in heaven?
4. If God doesn't bring us to heaven today, what does that mean for us (v. 25-26)? What does that mean, specifically, for you?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL CONSISTENCY

FEBRUARY 6, 2019 – PHILIPPIANS 1:27-30

[27] Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, [28] and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. [29] For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, [30] engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. One of the biggest areas of Gospel consistency is standing firm in the truth (v. 27) not compromising and living like the world, and not shrinking back from the world in fear, but boldly reaching them with the Gospel. How are you doing at this?
2. We are to strive together (v. 27), pursuing Jesus whole-heartedly with others, not just by ourselves. How can you do this? How have you enjoyed this?
3. We are not to fear (v. 28). Why not (v. 21 from last week)? People who oppose Christians are readying themselves for judgment (v. 28), but for Christians, opposition shows what (v. 28)?
4. We are also to endure together. Paul says he and the Philippians are engaged in the same conflict (v. 30). Suffering will come, struggles will come, hardships will come. How can we help each other endure and keep following Jesus?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL HUMILITY

FEBRUARY 13, 2019 – PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11

[1] So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, [2] complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. [3] Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. [4] Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. [5] Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, [6] who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, [7] but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. [8] And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. [9] Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, [10] so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, [11] and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. What are the four blessings of following Jesus from v. 1? Give an example of each.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

2. We all want unity in our youth group (or in church or in our home), but how do we get unity (v. 3-4)? Why is it so hard to be selfless and look out for others' interests?

3. Where is it hardest for you to prefer others? Where do you feel like saying: "Stop, enough. I'm not serving anymore or preferring anymore. I'm doing it my way."?

4. When someone tells us to do something, but isn't willing to do it themselves—that's hard. Jesus isn't like that. He tells us to be humble and what's His example (v. 5-8)? What should it lead us to do (v. 10-11)?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL SELFLESSNESS

FEBRUARY 20, 2019 – PHILIPPIANS 2:12-18

[12] Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, [13] for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

[14] Do all things without grumbling or disputing, [15] that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, [16] holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. [17] Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. [18] Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. Paul tells us to "work out" our salvation—meaning to labor hard for it (v. 12), then Paul tells us that the work is God's—it's Him working in us (v. 13). How do these two truths work together? Are you imbalanced on one side or the other on it?

2. Conviction Alert: Verse 14. How big of a problem is this in your life? How is this verse even possible to live out?

3. Our witness is impacted by our words (v. 15). God wants us to stand out and look different from the world. In what ways do you 'stand out' from the world?

4. Paul doesn't want us to be hypocritical witnesses. We are to live out the Gospel as we share it with others. What is key to us doing that (v. 16)? How are you doing at this?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL EXAMPLES

FEBRUARY 27, 2019 – PHILIPPIANS 2:19-30

[19] I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. [20] For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. [21] For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. [22] But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel. [23] I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, [24] and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also.

[25] I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, [26] for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. [27] Indeed he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. [28] I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. [29] So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and honor such men, [30] for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. Why is Paul so excited about Timothy? What has Paul pumped up about him (v. 20-21)?
2. How can v. 21 be true of you? Who do you see that lives out v. 21? How do they do it?
3. The other shout out in the chapter goes to Epaphroditus—he is the one who brought the letter of Philippians from Paul to the church. Summarize what Paul says about him.
4. How can you honor people who give their lives for Jesus? Who are people giving their lives for Jesus now? How can you honor them? Might God call you to this?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL JOY

MARCH 6, 2019 – PHILIPPIANS 3:1-8

[1] Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you. [2] Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. [3] For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh—[4] though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: [5] circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; [6] as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. [7] But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. [8] Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. Joy is a theme of the book (v. 1). If 'happiness flees in hard times, joy endures' why is joy better than happiness? Have you found this true in your life? How so?
2. Paul shows us—especially us who grew up in the church—that being 'good' or 'religious' is not good enough. Paul lists out his religious credentials, all of which he says are loss (v. 7). What religious credentials do you have? Why is it faulty to trust them?
3. Paul goes further—taking everything in his life and essentially throwing it in the trash can. Why do these things no longer matter to Paul? What does he really care about (v. 7-8)?
4. What are some things that you are passionate about? Do these things ever become a greater passion than knowing Jesus? What can keep good things from becoming too important? If they become your top goal, what might you not gain more of (v. 8)?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL PURSUIT

MARCH 13, 2019 – PHILIPPIANS 3:7-16

[7] But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. [8] Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ [9] and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—[10] that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, [11] that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

[12] Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. [13] Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, [14] I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. [15] Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. [16] Only let us hold true to what we have attained.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. Paul wants Jesus more than anything else (v. 8). Jesus saved Him, Jesus' righteousness covers Him, Jesus' death paid his debt. Now, he's obsessed with Jesus. Does this passion and drive mark your life? Why or why not?
2. Paul wants the power of the resurrection to be at work in His life. Paul needs this power to live a godly life, resist temptation, and meet every challenge. So, he pursues Jesus. Is this power at work in your life? How?
3. What is Paul's mindset in v. 13? How can you forget what is behind? How can you strain for what is ahead? What is the goal (v. 14)?
4. What does a mature Christian look like (v. 13-15)? What areas of God do you already obey Him in? How can you keep walking in obedience there?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL FUTURE

MARCH 20, 2019 – PHILIPPIANS 3:17-21

[17] Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. [18] For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. [19] Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. [20] But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, [21] who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. Who are godly examples for you to imitate? Who are your spiritual mentors (v. 17)? How often do you go to them for help?
2. Paul is broken about people who have turned their back on following Jesus (v. 18). What are the characteristics of people who walk away from Jesus (v. 19)? Who breaks your heart because they aren't walking with Jesus but living for earthly things?
3. Verses 20-21 are all about having an eternal mindset—not living for the day to day desires of earth, but remembering that we will one day stand before Jesus, we will be made perfect, and Jesus will rule over all things (v. 21). How should this change the way you live today? How can you practically have an eternal mindset?
4. Paul's end goal is verses 20-21. How does that impact each day of his life on earth (compare with Philippians 3:10-11)?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL REASONABLENESS

MARCH 27, 2019 – PHILIPPIANS 4:1-5

[1] Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved. [2] I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. [3] Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life. [4] Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. [5] Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand;

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. This is how we leaders feel about you (v. 1)—we love you and care for you, you are our trophies and we pray that you stand firm. Go around your group and thank your leaders and tell them how they can better help you stand firm.
2. In chapter 2 of Philippians two people were propped up as spiritual examples. Now, in 4.2, two people are called out. Why? How can disagreements damage the body? How have you seen 'drama' damage your life/your friend groups?
3. God has made us different from each other. Sometimes, these differences divide us and cause conflict. When this happens, we need to rejoice in the Lord together (v. 4). How does having joy in Jesus together reverse the division in relationships?
4. When we do disagree, it's easy for us to raise our voice, get heated, argue our side, gossip about others, get bitter in our hearts, or be passive-aggressive towards them. Instead, Paul says that we should be gentle (or reasonable, v. 5) towards others. Have you seen someone do this? Why does Jesus coming back make this more important (v. 5)?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

FREEDOM FROM ANXIETY: THE GOSPEL

APRIL 2, 2019 – PHILIPPIANS 4:6-9

[6] do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. [7] And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. [8] Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. [9] What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. Anxiety affects so many of us. Paul tells us not to 'be anxious' (v. 6), but also gives us the solution to it. It starts with our prayer life. Anxiety cripples our minds and Paul says that instead of meditating on our problems or situation and becoming anxious we are to do what two things (v. 6)?
2. What are we to be anxious about (v. 6)? What are we to pray about (v. 6)? What percentage of the time are you doing each of those? How might this affect your worry level?
3. Paul doesn't give much explanation for how v. 7 happens, but why does prayer bring a supernatural peace to our lives?
4. What your actions are like (v. 9) is tied to what you think about (v. 8). What you think about (v. 8) is tied to what you pray about (v. 6-7). What does your prayer life look like? How can you change the way you pray/think/act? What are you filling your imagination with?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL CONTENTMENT

APRIL 10, 2019 – PHILIPPIANS 4:10-13

[10] I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. [11] Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. [12] I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. [13] I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. Our culture makes it nearly impossible to be content. Every day we are told what we need in order to be happy. What are some areas of discontent that you see in your life? Be open and honest and share in your group.
2. Paul tells us that he has learned the secret to contentment. The secret isn't until next week's text, but here, we see the beginning of it. True contentment doesn't come from possessing some thing, but true contentment transcends circumstances—meaning, it doesn't matter if you are rich or poor, hungry or filled (v. 12). Why do we associate contentment with having more?
3. Paul gets on the subject of contentment because the Philippians knew that Paul was in jail, that he had needs and wanted to use what God had given them to bless him (v. 10). How can you use what God has given you to bless others?
4. Verse 13 is one of the most misused verses in the Bible. What is Paul really saying? If God is good and God is sovereign, how should this impact our contentment in every situation (v. 13)?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

GOSPEL RICHES

APRIL 17, 2019 – PHILIPPIANS 4:14-23

[14] Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. [15] And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. [16] Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. [17] Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. [18] I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. [19] And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. [20] To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen. [21] Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you. [22] All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household. [23] The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

Notes from the Lesson

Questions

1. Paul talks about being content and then follows that up by talking about how the church supported him financially. What does this show about the way God provides for us? What kind of attitude should we have when it comes to giving to our brothers and sisters in Christ (v. 14-16)?
2. How do you use your money to advance the Gospel (v. 14-16)? What are some ways you can do this in your life where God has you now?
3. How is verse 19 the secret to contentment? At times, we fear that if we give too sacrificially then ultimately no one will take care of our needs. What does verse 19 have to say about this? Do you believe verse 19 is always true in your life?
4. Sometimes, we think certain people are too far gone for God to save them. The Caesar at this time (Nero) was one of the most wicked humans ever (think Adolf Hitler). Yet, what do we note about v. 22? What encouragement does this bring?

Challenge One Another

Time in the Word? Prayer life? Fellowship? Walking in sin? Reaching out to others?

WORTH IT

PHILIPPIANS 3:8-9



RESOURCES

Sermons

Books

Links

Music

GALATIANS/PHILIPPIANS SERMONS

Do you want to learn more about a passage that we're studying this year? Maybe you want to prepare for Wednesday night or maybe you didn't understand something? Or maybe you just want to grow deeper in Jesus? These are links to sermons from different pastors on the books of Galatians and Philippians. In most cases, the link will get you to a sermon archive and from there you can pick the text/passage and listen!

1. John MacArthur on Galatians and Philippians

The gold standard in preaching—his sermons are rock solid from God's Word. He does a great job explaining every part of the text.

<https://bit.ly/2CiPe4r>

2. Matt Chandler on Galatians and Philippians

Pastor Chandler is a very clear, easy-to-understand preacher who makes God's Word easy to grasp while always pointing to Jesus.

<https://www.tvresources.net/resource-library/sermons/by-series/galatians>
<https://www.tvresources.net/resource-library/sermons/by-scripture/philippians>

3. John Piper on Galatians and Philippians

Piper is a passionate preacher whose deep meditations on the Bible produce Jesus-glorifying messages.

<https://www.desiringgod.org/scripture/galatians>

4. Kevin DeYoung on Galatians and Philippians

DeYoung has only a few sermons from these books but is very relatable and connects God's truth to our understanding well.

<https://bit.ly/2oD3CLc>

5. David Platt on Galatians and Philippians

Platt is another passionate preacher who longs to see the world filled with missionaries who give their lives magnifying Jesus.

<http://radical.net/articles/scripture/galatians/>
<http://radical.net/articles/scripture/philippians/>

TOP TEN BOOKS

1. **The Gospel According to Jesus by John MacArthur**

This book goes walks through the Gospels showing the lordship of Jesus. This has been the most influential book (outside of the Bible) in my life.

2. **The Enemy Within by Kris Lundgaard**

This book talks about how to deal with our sin nature. It's easy to read and helpful for battling sin.

3. **Hole in Our Holiness by Kevin DeYoung**

This book shows the necessity of obedience after conversion—often a missing piece of Gospel training.

4. **Comforts from the Cross by Elise Fitzpatrick**

This short, devotion-style book is helpful for getting daily gospel doses of God's Word in practical ways.

5. **Finally Alive by John Piper**

This book details the need to be born again—and the difference it makes when God truly saves someone.

6. **The Pursuit of Holiness by Jerry Bridges**

How can we obey God as Christians? Bridges helps us understand how holiness flows out of the Gospel.

7. **Sex, Dating, and Relationships by Gerald Hiestand and Jay S Thomas**

How far is too far? This book answers the question straight from God's Word.

8. **Finally Free by Heath Lambert**

One of the most common struggles for students is in the area of purity. How can you get real, Biblical help to be free of sin? Lambert explains how in this book.

9. **321: The Story of God, the World, and You by Glen Scrivener**

This is an easier read than most apologetic books and explains the validity of the Christian worldview in a helpful way.

10. **Visual Theology by Tim Challies**

This book has amazing illustrations that help make the complicated subject of theology easier to understand.

TOP FIVE LINKS

1. **Gospel Coalition Videos**

These well made videos have a wide range of topics from key questions Christians ask, to testimonies, to discussions of theology. They are short and well-made.

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/videos/>

2. **Anchored North Testimonies**

These well made videos are well done and communicate threads of the Gospel in accessible ways.

<https://anchorednorth.org>

3. **Creation resources—Ken Ham and Jay Seegert**

Two of the leading voices in creation research and study, these websites really help break down the subject of Biblical creation.

<https://answersingenesis.org>

<http://www.thestartingpointproject.com/home-cechome.html>

4. **Ask Pastor John**

John Piper asks very practical questions from God's Word

<https://www.desiringgod.org/ask-pastor-john>

5. **Kevin DeYoung Blog**

Kevin DeYoung is a pastor outside of Charlotte who frequently writes on a variety of Christian topics.

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/kevin-deyoung/>

RBC YOUTH GROUP SPOTIFY PLAYLIST

(Link: <http://www.racinebible.org/YouthGroupMusic2018>)

NOTES

Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor	Matt Boswell
Help My Unbelief	Red Mountain Church
Jesus, Thank You - Live	Sovereign Grace Music
His Mercy Is More	Matt Papa
Always (feat. John Warren)	The Village Church
Give Me Faith	Elevation Worship
God Over All	Na Band
Dwell	Compass North Worship
I Need Thee	Compass North Worship
No Other	For All Seasons
Hallelujah What a Savior [Live] (feat. Todd Agnew)	Austin Stone Worship
How Deep the Father's Love for Us (Live)	Austin Stone Worship
Ever Be	DVIC
Before the Throne of God Above	DVIC
Unstoppable God	Elevation Worship
Be My Desire	Brian Campbell
You're the Only One	Chris Renzema
East and West (feat. Jonathan David Helser)	Cageless Birds
Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken	The Enfield Hymn Sessions
Be Thou My Vision	The Enfield Hymn Sessions
All Creatures of Our God and King	Sovereign Grace Music
Nothing in All the Earth	Sovereign Grace Music
We Praise Your Righteousness	Sovereign Grace Music
All the Stars	Caroline Cobb
You Never Change (Live)	Austin Stone Worship
What A Friend	Jadon Lavik
All I Have Is Christ	Na Band
Praise Goes On	Elevation Worship
Here's My Hands, Here's My Heart	Seeker & Servant
Grace Alone	Joshua Spacht
All Glory Be to Christ - Live	Sovereign Grace Music
Give Me Faith	Elevation Worship
O Rock Eternal	Erik Nieder
Jesus, Thank You	Sovereign Grace Music
Jesus I Come	Elevation Worship
Only King Forever	Elevation Worship
Tonight The Stars Speak	The Glorious Unseen
It's Your Grace	Sovereign Grace Music
Have Mercy on Me	Sovereign Grace Music
Fall Afresh	Jeremy Riddle
Death In His Grave	John Mark McMillan
My Father's World - Live	Gungor
Taste Of Eternity	Bellarive
My Heart Delights	Emu Music
See the Man	Emu Music
Holy Hands	City Hymns
See The Conqueror	Jenny & Tyler
Made Alive	Citizens
Every Good Gift - Live	ONE A Worship Collective
Only a Holy God	CityAlight