

VALUE-MINDED

Philippians, #12

March 23–24, 2024 // Sermon Study Guide // Pastor Nate Miller

Text: Philippians 3:1–11

Truth Points: What truth was covered this weekend in the message?

1. Read Philippians 3:1. Why doesn't Paul mind repeating himself? How should his attitude impact our attitude when it comes to spiritual truths?
2. Read Philippians 3:2–7. What three terms does Paul use to refer to the false teachers? Based on what you read here, what kinds of false teaching is Paul confronting? Is there false teaching like this in our society today? What does it look like?
3. According to Paul, what does a true follower of Jesus look like in Philippians 3:3? What stands out to you about this description? How is this different than the false teachers?
4. Paul lists seven worthless ways of salvation. The first four are inherited and the final three are personal achievements. What would each of these items look like in our society? Which of these are you personally tempted to cling to?

"Circumcised on the eighth day"	Place & Manner of Birth
"of the people of Israel"	Family of Origin
"of the tribe of Benjamin"	Status in Society
"a Hebrew of Hebrews"	Culture & Bloodline
"as to the law, a Pharisee"	Adherence to the Law
"as to zeal, a persecutor of the church"	Authentic Devotion
"as to righteousness under the law, blameless"	Personal Morality

5. Read Philippians 3:7–8. What does Paul think of all his former reasons for confidence in his own merit and works? Why has his perspective changed? How is Jesus our treasure?

6. Read Philippians 3:9. What does Paul now think about righteousness through the law? What kind of righteousness does Paul now seek? How is that righteousness received? How is Jesus our righteousness?
7. Read Philippians 3:10–11. How has Jesus become Paul’s ambition in life? What does Paul mean by “know Jesus” if he already said he knows Christ in verse 8? Paul mentions both the resurrection power, as well as sharing in Christ’s sufferings. How is it helpful that he lists both these things? What difference do each of them make for a believer who is passionately pursuing Jesus?

Reflection Points: How does God want me to think, feel, act, and speak because of this truth?

1. Is Jesus my treasure? What do I value in life? Are there certain things in Paul’s list of past achievements that I am still tempted to treasure? What needs to change in my heart and life to make Jesus my treasure more and more?
2. Is Jesus my righteousness? What forms of self-righteousness am I tempted to believe in? What forms of self-righteousness do I need to surrender? How can I make the mental shift from being self-centered to Christ-centered; self-confident to Christ-confident; self-esteeming to Christ-esteeming?
3. Is Jesus my ambition? In what ways am I passionately pursuing Jesus? What would it look like to make Him my singular focus and pursuit in life? What would I have to give up? What would I gain?

Action Points: What am I going to do this week because of this truth?

1. **Memorize:** Hebrews 11:24–26.
2. **Make a “To-Stop” List:** Many of us make to-do lists to achieve the goals we have in life, but have you considered making a “To-Stop-Doing” list? Read through Paul’s former pursuits in Philippians 3:4–6; he has chosen to stop pursuing these things. To make passionately pursuing Jesus your singular focus, what things would you put on your list of things you will intentionally choose to stop pursuing?
3. **Share the Story:** Share with a friend what you’re learning about Jesus in 2024.