

Philippians 3 Discussion Questions

1. Has there ever been a time in your life when someone said, "You've really changed"? What had changed about you?
2. Paul had an impressive "CV" before becoming a Christian, yet he came to see it as worthless compared with knowing Christ. Where do people today look for their sense of worth or acceptance? Are there any of those things that Christians can subtly rely on too?
3. Paul says he wants to "know Christ" (vv.8-10). What do you think is the difference between knowing about Jesus and actually knowing Jesus? How have you experienced that difference in your own life?
4. Paul says our righteousness comes through faith in Christ, not through our own efforts. Why do you think we still find it so easy to slip into thinking God loves us more when we're "doing well" and less when we're struggling?
5. In verses 12-16 Paul says he is "pressing on." How do we hold these two truths together?
 - We are already accepted by God through Christ.
 - We are still called to pursue holiness and spiritual growth.

Why is it important not to confuse those two things?

6. Paul encourages believers to imitate faithful examples and warns against those who distort the gospel. Who has been a positive example of following Jesus in your life?
7. Paul reminds us that "our citizenship is in heaven." How should that truth shape the way we think about everyday life—our ambitions, possessions, relationships, disappointments, or fears? Is there one area where you find it hardest to live as a citizen of heaven rather than simply of this world?
8. Looking back over Philippians 3, what is one thing you sense God is calling you to this week?