

PHILIPPIANS 3:1-9

Sermon Reflection Questions

These questions are designed to help individuals, families, and small groups discuss and apply passages in the Philippians sermon series as taught at Grace Bible Church in fall 2018.

Observe & Interpret

Read Philippians 3:1-9

Observation Questions

- 1) Box all the things that Paul naturally could have put on his spiritual resume.
- 2) Highlight all the accounting terms in verses 7-8 (for example “gain” or “loss.”)
- 3) List at least one observation per verse in the space below:

Interpretation Questions

- 1) In verse 2, why does Paul describe his opponents with such strong language? Looking through the entire passage, on what grounds does Paul disagree with these people?
- 2) Why does Paul list out his own spiritual background and accomplishments in verses 4-6 (cf. Galatians 1:13-14)? Specifically, what is he trying to prove to his opponents?
- 3) In verses 7-9, why does Paul ultimately consider his prior accomplishments of such little value?
- 4) If Paul’s works are of no value compared to the value of knowing Christ, then why bother with good works at all? Why should Christians pursue holiness if they don’t provide us with eternal life (see Romans 6:1-4; 8:10-13)?

Apply

Reflection Questions

Are there examples in your life that you “put confidence in the flesh?” What about your spiritual heritage, accomplishments, or education?

How can you depend upon Jesus Christ’s faithfulness this week? Do you need to trust Him with past mistakes, current relationships, or future plans?

Spend time in prayer asking the Lord to increase your faith in His sufficiency.

Memorize: “More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ...” — Philippians 3:8