

How to Live the Christian Life

A Study in Philippians—Part 4

January 17th, 2010

Previous Memory Verses:

Philippians 1:21 For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better.

Philippians 2:5 You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

Philippians 2:21 All the others care only for themselves and not for what matters to Jesus Christ.

What it COST to Become a 'Child of God'...

Philippians 3:3b-6 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.

The CATCH..

Philippians 3:7-8 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

"He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." Jim Elliot

What is GAINED as a 'Child of God'...

...A new righteousness

Philippians 3:9-12 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! ¹² I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me.

...A new goal

Philippians 3:13-14 No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

...A new home & body

Philippians 3:20-21 But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. ²¹ He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.

The CHALLENGE..

Philippians 3:15-17 Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you. ¹⁶ But we must hold on to the progress we have already made. ¹⁷ Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example.

This week:

Read - The book of Philippians

Memorize - Philippians 3:14