

The Great Exchange
Philippians 3.1-16
October 14, 2012
Message Notes



Some Thoughts . . .

1. Cheer Up. And Watch Out!

Philippians 3.1-6

Jesus + Nothing = Everything

Jesus + Anything = Nothing

Religious checklists always end in pride or despair

2. The Great Exchange

Philippians 3.7-11

Striving to be made right
with God
by me keeping rules

Being made right
with God
by God

2 Corinthians 5.19-21

fear

love

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Growth Group Questions



1. Think about something fun, silly, crazy or dumb you've done to try to win someone's favor. Or maybe it's what someone has done to get you to like them.

2. The bible is not very complimentary about any of us, before Jesus came into our lives.
 - a. Read, and discuss God's no-punches-pulled indictment of all of us, Romans 3.9-20.

 - b. What is Paul's conclusion, Romans 3.20? (The "law" being not only the Old Testament Law, but any of our checklists of good behavior.)

 - c. Why do you think we keep trying to *win God over* by our efforts, works, promises and checklists?

3. Cheer up! Read more of the bad news. And read the Good news in Romans 5.6-10.
 - a. Search for the four phrases that describe us *before* we put our faith in Jesus.

 - b. Draw a simple timeline from this verse. When did Jesus die for us? When did God pour out His love upon us? What checklists *had we kept* when God demonstrated His amazing love for us on the cross?

4. So good works *to earn* or *keep* God's love are rubbish. But what about good works and the loved and rescued believer in Jesus? Read Titus 2.13-14.

5. How do you still struggle with thinking that you need to keep some checklist or God won't love you anymore?