

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ April 22, 2012



PHILIPPIANS: To Know Christ and Make Him Known

“What Is the Gospel? (Part 3)” Philippians 3:1-11

In order to be faithful to the Great Commission, you need to be able to succinctly communicate the gospel to unbelievers. That is why we’ve spent several weeks learning the main parts of the gospel message.

Pastor Mike has compared the gospel to a symphony in three movements. We covered the first two movements (our condition, God’s solution) back in March. This week we will discuss the third movement, which is the application of the gospel to the individual.

What must a person do to experience the saving work of Jesus Christ? You’ll find out as you dive into Paul’s autobiographical reflection in Philippians 3:1-11.



KNOWING GOD

Read Philippians 3:1-11. What had the apostle Paul discovered that changed him from a person who relied on his own record to someone who relied on Christ for salvation?

What is repentance? Where do you see Paul's repentance in this week's Scripture passage?

It has been said that a person must repent of his good works as well as his sins to be saved. Do you agree or disagree?



GROWING TOGETHER

In this week's passage, glorying in Christ is set in contrast with glorying in one's own record and achievements (which Paul calls "the flesh"). What do you tend to fall back on to feel better about yourself? Can you identify any idols that pull you away from complete trust in Christ?

What would be different about you if Philippians 3:10 were to become more of a compelling vision for your life?



SERVING OTHERS

Did you have any spiritual conversations with people this past week? If so, tell what happened.

Now that you've heard the three parts of the gospel, see how well you can complete this outline:

- A. Our condition: What's the problem?
 - A1. We are _____ and _____.
 - A2. We cannot _____.
 - A3. We deserve _____.
- B. God's solution: Jesus
 - B1. Who is he? _____
 - B2. What did he do? _____
- C. The application: What must you do to receive Christ?
 - C1. _____
 - C2. _____



IN YOUR FAMILY...

In order to have a relationship with Jesus, the apostle Paul had to transfer his trust from himself to Christ. Within your family, are there things rooted in pride that actually keep you from knowing Christ in his fullness? (Examples: grades, awards, possessions, etc.) Talk about how you can pursue excellence without turning your accomplishments into idols.

SERMON NOTES