

DON'T WASTE



YOUR LIFE

Philippians 3:8-11

-- The resurrection of Jesus Christ demands a *Response* from everyone.

- Any proper understanding of Easter comes with this urgent entreaty: *Don't waste your life!*
- "Only one life, 'twill soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last."

-- **Big Idea: To live for anything above Christ is to waste your life.**

-- Nothing compares to *the Greatness of Knowing Christ* Jesus..

-- v. 8 – “*I consider everything a loss...*”

- Anything other than Christ to which we look for purpose or hope is harmful to us.
- Forsaking the pursuit of this world is essential to gaining the infinitely greater joy of knowing Jesus Christ.

-- v. 8 – “*...the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord...*”

v. 10 – “*I want to know Christ...*”

- This refers not to intellectual knowledge, but to a knowledge that is intimate, personal, experiential, and relational.
- There is an infinite difference between knowing *About* Christ and really *Knowing* Christ (James 2:19, Matthew 7:22-23).
- Do you *know* Christ, or do you just know *about* Christ?

-- v. 8 – “*...for whose sake I have lost all things...*” (Matthew 13:45-46)

- Jim Elliott – “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose.”

-- v. 8 – “*I consider them rubbish....*”

- “*rubbish*” = dung, refuse, worthless and detestable

- Paul uses a disgusting word to highlight a disgusting misunderstanding of what really **Matters**
- v. 8-9 – “...that I may gain Christ and be found in Him...”
- No purpose is as profitable as the **Pursuit** of Christ.”

## What We Gain in Knowing Christ: 5 Surpassing Promises

### 1.) In knowing Christ, we gain **Salvation**

- v. 8 – “...and be found in Him...”
- In the end, all that will matter is this: Did you forsake every other hope in favor of Jesus Christ?

### 2.) In knowing Christ, we gain **Pardon** from sin.

- v. 9 – “...not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ...”
- Christ lived and died to give us freely the righteousness which we could never earn on our own.
- This is called justification (Romans 3:23-24).

### 3.) In knowing Christ, we gain **Power** to change.

- v. 10 – “...and the power of his resurrection...” (Ephesians 1:19-20)
- The resurrection is proof that in Christ there is hope and power for renewal, newness, and change.
- This is called sanctification.

### 4.) In knowing Christ, we gain **Purpose** for living.

- v. 10 – “...and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings...”
- To know Christ means knowing that we are not alone in our suffering.
- If we truly know Christ, then every bit of life—even our most difficult times—has eternal spiritual purpose (Hebrews 4:15).
- This is called participation (1 Peter 4:12-13).

### 5.) In knowing Christ, we gain the **Promise** of eternal life.

- v. 11 – “...and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead...”
- Resurrection to eternal life is not promised to everyone. It is the hope only for those who know Jesus Christ.

- This is called glorification.
- To understand Easter is to want to **Know** Jesus Christ (John 17:3).
- Because Paul understood the absolute reality of the resurrection, his greatest passion was to know Jesus.

### **Application Questions**

- *What is your response to Easter? Is it a life-changing reality or just a Sunday in the Spring?*
- *As we conclude this service this morning, do you have a passion to know Jesus, or do you just want to get on with something else?*