

joy / full

a study in philippians

GROUP GUIDE

PHILIPPIANS 3:1-11

Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,
To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons^a:

² Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. ⁸ God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹ And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

A Greater Worth // January 19, 2025

1. If money was no object, what would you purchase? Share why.
2. Read Philippians 3:1-11.
 - What does it mean to 'rejoice in the Lord'?
 - Why is it significant that we rejoice in the Lord Jesus?
 - How might this shift your perspective and/or ability to worship, even in difficult times? Consider Hebrews 13:8.
3. In v. 2-4 Paul warns the Philippian church about a group that has either already arrived in Philippi or is on its way that is teaching a Jesus *and* message.
 - Why is a Jesus *and* belief system dangerous?
 - What are some examples of this you have come across?
4. Paul lists identity markers that were highly valued in his culture.
 - What are some identity markers that are highly valued in our culture today?
 - What are some of the things that you may be looking to in order to give you a sense of who you are? Examples - your job, relationship status, what you have or have done, etc.
- 5 - Read Philippians 3:7-9 and discuss the following:
 - What was the cause of Paul's shift in perspective?
 - What reason(s) does Paul give to show how Jesus has surpassing worth?
 - How are these different from what he has previously listed in 3:4-6?
5. Paul says our identity as followers of Jesus is relational (identity is based on a relationship with God). How is this different from how you normally think of identity? Share your thoughts.
6. When Paul says 'I want to know Christ,' he is using the language of desire.
 - How would you rate your desire to know Jesus right now?
 - What might need to change for that desire to increase and grow?
7. Using Colossians 1:15-23, pray and worship Jesus for who he is.



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[LEADERS NOTES]

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU FOLLOW JESUS

- centralheights.ca/followjesus

STORIES

- We love hearing how God moves in people's lives. If you or anyone in your group has a story and would be willing to share, we'd love to hear it and celebrate with you. You can share your story by emailing stories@centralheights.ca

MESSAGE Video and Audio can be found at:

<https://www.centralheights.ca/currentseries>