



Key References:

Philippians 3:3–4 (ESV) - For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh—⁴ though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:

Ephesians 2:8–9 (ESV) – For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

“Our works do not generate righteousness, rather our righteousness in Christ generates works.” – Martin Luther

Philippians 3:7–11 (ESV) – But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Romans 8:11 (ESV) – If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

1 – PUT NO CONFIDENCE IN THE FLESH

Thinking about your own various skills and abilities which one gives you the biggest confidence boost in life? How do these areas of confidence give you comfort and security in life?

Read Philippians 3:1-6. **What was Paul’s pre-Christ confidence in, and how did it give him comfort and security? Explain the meaning and implications of verse 3.**

If we are to “put no confidence in the flesh” what does that mean for the things we mentioned at the beginning?

On Sunday Paul said: *“You see, our flesh is deceitful. It’ll trick you into thinking that you’re good enough and strong enough and you can do it on your own.”* **How has this statement played out in your journey? How does Ephesians 2:8-9 speak to this area?**

Read the quote from Martin Luther. **Why is that realization important?**

2 – COUNT IT ALL AS LOSS, TO GAIN CHRIST

Read Philippians 3:7-9. **What is the connection between “counting all things as loss” and “gaining Christ and being found in Him”?**

Verse 9 talks about two places that righteousness comes from. **What is the difference between the two of them in our ability to stand before God?**

On Sunday Paul defined righteousness as *“to be morally right and justified, to be guiltless and blameless”* or simply put as the ability to stand before a Holy God. **Why should this truth be front a center when communicating the gospel to someone who doesn’t know Jesus?**

3 – WALK IN HIS POWER

Read Philippians 3:10-11. Out of this passage Paul said, *“God wants us to have firsthand knowledge and experience with His power in our lives and through our lives.”* **What “power of his resurrection” is available for Christians to walk in today?**

Paul ended the message on Sunday by emphasizing the importance of sharing this message of Christ’s righteousness to the world around us. **How would you summarize the gospel from what we’ve read this week? Do you have any testimonies of sharing the gospel recently?**