



Study Guide

Philippians 3:1-11

Read Philippians 3:1-11

1. What is the purpose of a safeguard? have you ever had experiences where you appreciated the safeguards that were in place? If so, what were they? How is rejoicing in the Lord a safeguard for us?
2. Paul talks about all that he could brag about from a human perspective before knowing Jesus in verses 4-6. What are areas of life that you may have taken unhealthy pride in? How does pride negatively impact our thinking?
3. As we read through Paul's accomplishments, he ends with verse 7, "But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ." Why are these former accomplishments now considered "loss" for Paul?
4. How would you encourage someone who still finds themselves striving to find meaning in titles, accomplishments, or accolades?

5. In verses 8–9, Paul talks about a trading of everything, and even refers to it as garbage or dung, for the cause of knowing Christ. What do you think Paul is talking about giving up? What changes have occurred in your perspective as you have grown in your relationship with Jesus?

6. Paul had been caught up in being religious, but was missing out on Jesus. How many of you would have considered yourselves “religious” before you actually knew Jesus as your Savior? What is the danger of being religious? (2 Timothy 3:5)

7. How does Paul’s aim in verses 10–11 compare to your aim? How can we help one another have a similar aim as Paul’s?

8. Paul would eventually be killed for his commitment to Jesus. Many in churches around the world are suffering the same persecution that Paul did. Have you ever received push back, or persecution, for reaching out to others with the gospel? How can we faithfully live out our faith in spite of push back and difficulty?

As you close ... Please pray for Jesus followers in the Middle East, in Asia, China, and India as they endure intense levels of persecution.

(For more specific ways on how you can be praying for the persecuted church, please check out www.persecution.com.)

For next week: Read Philippians 3:12–21

