



NEED TO KNOW

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO HAVE A FAITH THAT
SURVIVES & THRIVES IN A CHALLENGING WORLD
A.K.A. THE LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Week 5: We need to know our past in light of the cross

Philippians 3:1-21

PARK
CHURCH

Our lives tell a story that includes everything from our past, our present, and all that our future is yet to unfold. As Christ followers, our lives are no longer defined by those things that have happened good or bad, but by the value that Christ has put on our lives. We, in turn, need to place the greatest value on our encounter with Christ and our ongoing relationship with him. As we continue to follow him, we grow in our understanding of the fact that we are part of a bigger story. We are part of God's story.

Read Philippians Chapter 3

- *What things either good, bad, or matter of fact do you see as defining moments or circumstances in your life?*

In verses 3-6

- *How did Paul define himself apart from Christ?*
- *Apart from Christ, what defines/defined you?*

Talk about the "No Ice Please" illustration from the sermon.

Read how Paul tells his story in Acts 26:4-29 and answer the questions below.

- *How does the "No ice please!" illustration from the sermon play out in Paul's story?*
- *Why might Paul count his achievements as a loss? As dung? See Phil 3:7-11*

Paul also said, "For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures" 1Co 15:3-4 ESV

- *How will making Jesus "of first importance" change your story? Impact others?*
- *Is there something that you need to bring to the cross so it can be overshadowed there?*
- *Are you found in your own righteousness or in the righteousness that comes by faith in Christ? What does that scene of your story look like?*

"The past can remind you, but it CANNOT define you!"

Jesus is your true story! Practice telling it.

- *Share something of your current chapter now - give space and honor to God as you do.*

Prayer point: Pray for an opportunity to share your story with someone this week.