

**Passionately Pursuing Christ**  
**Philippians 3:7-11**  
(May 5, 2013)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ **do not save.**
  - ◇ Saved from what? (Eph. 2:1-5)
  - ◇ Paul's impressive list (Phil. 3:4-6)
  - ◇ The problem
  - ◇ My own attempts to save myself
2. \_\_\_\_\_ **saves!**
  - ◇ Gain versus loss (Matt. 13:44-46)
  - ◇ The righteousness of Christ (Rom. 3:20-22; 2 Cor. 5:21)
  - ◇ The value of rubbish
3. \_\_\_\_\_ **in Christ to the \_\_\_\_\_ day.**
  - ◇ Examine yourself daily (Ps. 139:23-24; Rom. 12:1-2)
  - ◇ Take up your cross (Phil. 1:27-30)
  - ◇ Find hope in the future (John 16:33)

**Message-Based Discussion Questions**

1. What change was first evident in you once you met Christ? (Consider the question from the eyes of someone who knows you well.)

**Digging Deeper:**

2. Paul's conversion experience is recorded in Acts 9, 22, and 26. In Acts 26:12-20, look at the turning point in Paul's life. What sort of impact would this "new Paul" have had on those who knew of him before his conversion?
3. In Galatians 2:17-21, how can we see the importance of pursuing Christ over all else? Why do all other methods of "salvation" come up short? What does this mean for how we prioritize our own lives?
4. Paul recognized that such a pursuit of Christ would mean sacrifice, suffering, persecution, possible even death (Phil. 3:10, see also his experience in 2 Cor. 11:18-30). How does this square with Jesus' teaching in Luke 14:26-27? How do we maintain a passionate pursuit of Christ through such hardship?

**Applying the Message to Life:**

5. In the world we live in, how do I merge the pursuit of Christ into my daily routine (work, home, school, hobbies, etc.)?
6. In what ways might I be staking my hope for salvation in something besides Christ? How can I change that focus?
7. How is my pursuit of Jesus Christ pointing others toward the hope that is to be found – both now and in eternity – in Him alone?