

January 17, 2021

Pastor Andy McClellan

Series: "How's Your Attitude?"

Title: "My Attitude about My Identity"

Philippians 3:1-11

Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:1-11 (ESV)

**Outline:**

*I can rejoice in confidence when...*

1. My identity is not based on my own **GOODNESS**, vv. 3-8 (*cf. Isaiah 64:6; Romans 3:21-28; 4:1-4; 2 Corinthians 3:4-6; Galatians 3:9-11; 5:1-6; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7*).

2. My identity is based on my **RELATIONSHIP** with Jesus, vv. 3, 7-9 (*cf. Jeremiah 9:23-24; Matthew 10:37-38; 13:44; 16:25-26; John 17:3; Acts 20:24; Galatians 3:24-29; 4:13-17; Ephesians 2:10-22*).

3. My identity is found in my **BECOMING** like Jesus, vv. 10-11 (*cf. John 15:18-21; Romans 6:3-11; 8:16-17; Ephesians 1:17-18; 4:12-13; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17*).



Read Philippians 3:1-11 as a family. Paul lists several things that he was willing to lose for the sake of knowing Jesus. What in your life would be the easiest things to lose or consider "garbage," if you had to, in order to grow in your relationship with Jesus? What would be the hardest things to lose? What do you gain in knowing Christ that makes all of that loss worth it?

## **FOR FURTHER THOUGHT, STUDY AND DISCUSSION**

1. Paul lists several reasons for why he could be confident in his own righteousness, if his future hope could be based on that. What are some good acts or deeds in your life that you might be tempted to view as grounds for confidence in your own goodness? Why are they insufficient for providing that confidence? What place *do* good works have in the life of a Christian (see Eph. 2)?
2. According to Phil. 3:8-11, what does it mean to “gain Christ?” In our current culture, what are some things they may be lost in our pursuit of gaining and knowing Christ? Do you feel that you have already lost some things in your pursuit of growing to know and become more like Jesus? What are they? Was it worth it? Why or why not? What does your answer reveal about how important it is to you to grow in your relationship with Jesus?
3. Many people today debate the idea of “identity-politics” and “intersectionality” where people are grouped, categorized and identified, primarily according to their ethnicity, gender, sexual preference, class, etc. This is what the Judaizers were doing in Paul’s day. They were requiring Gentile converts to Christ to be circumcised in order to identify with Judaism, before they were allowed to identify with Jesus. What do the Scriptures speak to that kind of practice (cf. James 2:1-4; Galatians 3)?  
According to Acts 17:25-26 and Romans 3:23, what two group identities do *all* people share? According to Phil. 3:1-11, what identity do all who put their trust in Jesus share? How can that understanding inform our response to the current identity issues of today?

**NEXT WEEK:** – “My Attitude about my Maturity”- Philippians 3:2-16

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