

PHILIPPIANS

WEEK 6

SAFEGUARD...

Philippians 3:1-6 (NLT) Whatever happens, my dear brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. I never get tired of telling you these things, and I do it to safeguard your faith. 2 Watch out for those dogs, those people who do evil, those mutilators who say you must be circumcised to be saved. 3 For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort, 4 though I could have confidence in my own effort if anyone could. Indeed, if others have reason for confidence in their own efforts, I have even more! 5 I was circumcised when I was eight days old. I am a pure-blooded citizen of Israel and a member of the tribe of Benjamin—a real Hebrew if there ever was one! I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law. 6 I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault.

WHY IS REJOICING IMPORTANT TO PAUL?

HOW DOES THIS SAFEGUARD OUR FAITH?

WHY IS THE TERM “MUTILATOR” USED IN THIS PASSAGE?

WHAT IS THE TRUE MARK OF A CHRISTIAN?

WHAT SHOULD WE REMEMBER ABOUT PAUL AND HIS PERSONAL HISTORY?

ONCE...

Philippians 3:7-11 (NLT) I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. 8 Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ 9 and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith. 10 I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, 11 so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!

WHY DID PAUL THINK HIS HISTORY TO BE VALUABLE?

WHAT IS THE TRAP HERE?

HOW DOES PAUL'S RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST CHANGE HIS VALUES?

WHAT IS AT THE CENTER OF A CHRISTIAN'S LIFE?

WHAT DOES PAUL WANT TO EXPERIENCE FOR HIMSELF?

WHAT WILL THAT EXPERIENCE DO FOR HIM?(AND US AS WELL)