

MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY



TAKING STOCK OF YOUR LIFE

In Philippians 3, the apostle Paul turns his focus inward to take stock of his life. It's an attempt to determine what's important, and what isn't. Of all he's done with his life, he wants to decide what counts and what doesn't. Paul ultimately decides that the only thing in life that counts – the only thing that makes life worth living – is to “Chase hard after Jesus.” Ultimately, the conclusions Paul reaches and the qualities he enumerates offer some important insights in helping us assess our definitions of success and our motives for achieving it.

After reading Philippians 3:7-14, discuss the following:

1. What kinds of success are available to you in this world today? What does success look like to you? What in your life has caused you to arrive at this definition? Who or what in your past has influenced your vision of what a successful life looks like? Does your definition include any of God's perspectives and purposes? How do your Godly perspectives impact your actions?
2. Is your goal in life like that of Paul, to “chase hard after Jesus?” What have you sacrificed or given up in order to pursue Jesus? Share examples from your life or illustrations from movies.
3. What things in this life have you determined to be worth your investment of time, money, and energy? Read Matthew 6:19-21 - What kind of treasures are you laying up for yourself in Heaven? Be specific.
4. How have your priorities and loyalties changed since you placed your faith in Jesus? Why are they different now? Compare and contrast the Biblical view and the world's view of a successful life.
5. In what ways do you think God and His Kingdom are served by the life you are pursuing? Is there anything in your life that is bringing shame to the Savior? What needs to change? How do you change it?

Pray for the courage to take an honest assessment of your life, and for the wisdom to see the areas that need the touch of the Savior. Then put feet to your prayers.

As you leave and go out to serve Jesus in the motorcycling world and everywhere you go, contemplate the following passage; Matthew 22:36-39 “Teacher,” he asked, “which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus answered, “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and the most important commandment. The second most important commandment is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as you love yourself’” (TEV).