



**WORD**

<sup>7</sup>But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup>What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. PHILIPPIANS 3:7-9 (READ PHILIPPIANS 3:1-11 FOR CONTEXT.)

**WHAT**

People by nature are self-centered. They want almost everything for their own benefit. If possible, they would have the world revolve around themselves. Whatever skin color, size of income, or position in this world, every person can easily give in to being self-centered. How can we avoid this trap that would ruin us in the long run? There are three biblical essentials to remember to avoid self-centeredness and bring back the glory to Jesus Christ.

**1 Self-effort is worthless compared to Christ’s work.**

<sup>3</sup>For it is we who are the circumcision, we who worship by the Spirit of God, who glory in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh— <sup>4</sup> though I myself have reasons for such confidence. PHILIPPIANS 3:3,4

During Bible times, people thought they could follow the Law on their own than depending on God. Today, people don’t only think they can change themselves into what’s acceptable before God but they rely on their own strength and ability everyday, leading them to think that they deserve all the credit. People don’t know how to trust God, the One Who can do immeasurably beyond our ability. How do you place your confidence in Christ? How do you give God the credit in all that you do?

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**2 Self-achievement is worthless compared to Christ’s sake.**

*But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ.* PHILIPPIANS 3:7

The Apostle Paul has all the reason to boast as a Jew because of the things he has achieved. He was a well-learned student of the law, the very reason why he persecuted Christians then, because nothing can be held against him. In the same way, people today have much self-achievement—self-made individuals who take pride in their position, accolades, and awards. Instead of achieving things on your own, are you in faith that God can cause you to be successful? Why is fulfilling God’s will more profitable than achieving our own selfish goals?

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**3 Self-possession is worthless compared to knowing Christ.**

*What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things.* PHILIPPIANS 3:8

The Apostle Paul knows that whatever he has can never give him satisfaction and contentment. Many people today are so focused on travelling around the world, enlarging their businesses, building new homes, or even becoming physically fit. There is nothing wrong with these things. However, the problem comes when people allow these things to compromise their relationship with Jesus Christ. Why is the knowledge of Jesus the best possession one can ever have?

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