

# JOY TO YOUR WORLD: Knowing Jesus, “It’s a Wonderful Life”

PHILIPPIANS 3:1-11

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■ Central Church

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■ Social Media: #JoyToYourWorld

## ***When Nothing Matters Like Knowing Jesus It’s Joy to Your World.***

1. Watch Out for **Predator** Religion (1-3).
2. Reject Résumés of **Pedigree** Religion (4-8).
3. Accept Christ Plus Nothing as **Profitable** Religion (8-11).

### ***Philippians 3:1-11***

Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you. <sup>2</sup>Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. <sup>3</sup>For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh—

<sup>4</sup>though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. <sup>7</sup>But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

<sup>8</sup>Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order 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 comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— <sup>10</sup>that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.  
(ESV)

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### APPLICATION QUESTIONS

*These questions are for further study and application of today’s sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help your fight for life change. One of the best ways to grow in the body is by discussing the answers to these questions in a small group. Find one here:*

[www.centralchurch.com/groups](http://www.centralchurch.com/groups)

1. When it comes to “predator religion,” Paul uses words like “dogs” and “evildoers.” These are powerful labels Paul is putting on false teachers. Why is Paul’s “name-calling” so offensive to our modern sensibilities, and what does this communicate about the importance of the pure gospel?
2. In verses 4-7, Paul details his religious resume. Why does Paul now look back on all those things and count them as rubbish?
3. In verses 8-11, what are the gains of trusting in Christ “plus nothing?”

### **Quote for the Week. . .**

By Kevin D Young



*“Any gospel which says only what you must do and never announces what Christ has done is no gospel at all.”*

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