



Sunday November 15, 2009

Senior Minister Tim Lueking

Paradox Part #2 – Losing to Win

Philippians 3:7-11

“...I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Jesus Christ my Lord...(v. 8)”

Sermon Series Summary

As we read the Bible sometimes we come across confusing statements that seem to be more paradoxical than anything else. Our desire through the course of this series is to look primarily through the book of Philippians and lock in on a few of these paradoxical statements. We will answer some of the following questions:

- **Sermon #1** – Can you find joy in the midst of suffering?
- **Sermon #2** – Can I have everything, if I have nothing?
- **Sermon #3** – Can I find peace when I am anxious?
- **Sermon #4** – Can I be content in the midst of my need?

Philippians 3:7-11 (NIV)– ⁷But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸What 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 ⁹and 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. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Big Question – Can I have everything, if I have nothing?

Big Idea – God's Winning Formula = I – Me – Mine + His Grace = Victory

Four Gifts Gained by Losing to Win

Gift #1 – Wisdom (v.8-9a)

- **Key Point** – The first key point that we examine comes to us as we observe verses 8-9. It is in this text that we learn that the true gift given to us as we learn to humble ourselves before God is the gift of wisdom. Wisdom in this text is truly defined as dedicating our lives to knowing the incomparable worth of Jesus Christ. This is true wisdom.

Gift #2 – Real Righteousness (v. 9b)

- **Key Point** – The second gift that we examine is also seen in verse 9. It is here where we read that when we begin humbling ourselves before God and living for Him alone then we begin understanding that true righteousness is not just the good works of man rather it is the righteousness that comes only from God and a pursuit for Him.

Gift #3 – True Power (v. 10a)

- **Key Point** – The third gift that we examine is seen in verse 10. As we learn to humble ourselves before the living God then we come to the realization that sometimes we need a

power greater than our own to overcome the obstacles of this life as well as to live forever. It is here, in living for Jesus that we find the true power of the risen Savior for this life and the life to come.

Gift #4 – Unity with Christ in His Glory (v. 10-11)

- **Key Point** – The final gift that we examine is also seen in verse 10-11. True joy is found in the simple fact that no matter what this life throws your way, there is something better that is coming. We have hope of dwelling with the Lord forever and non-Christians do not have that hope!

Memory Verse:

Philippians 3:7 – But whatever was to my profit, I now consider loss for the sake of Christ.

Sermon Challenge

- **Partners in Peace** – Join us over the next two months as we begin a new prayer initiative. Find at least one other person that you can meet with twice a week from now until the end of the year and pray for peace and joy to overwhelm your heart, mind, and soul as well as praying for peace and joy to consume God's churches in our community and pray for God's peace to transform our country.

