



On Philippians

*Week 9: Jesus and _____ | Teacher: Steve Frissell
Sermon Questions for 7.28.2024*

Opener

What is something you used to feel a sense of identity in but no longer do?

Read

Philippians 3:1-11; Galatians 5:16-18, 24;

Main Points

1. Paul's use of "dogs," "evil workers," and "those who mutilate the flesh" is intentional. All trying to add to faith something more than Jesus.
 - a. Dogs - eat anything, including unclean things. No restraint, self-indulgent.
 - b. Evil workers - they are evil and are adding works.
 - c. Mutilate the flesh - requiring circumcision, Sabbath, and dietary restrictions.
2. A good definition for the "flesh" - a pattern of thinking that leads us to think, feel, and choose as if we are independent of God.
3. Both "positive" and "negative" flesh patterns are ways of operating, but do not define us, as believers.
4. "Positive" flesh shows up as pride, self-righteousness, perfectionism, independence, performing, controlling, intolerance, legalism, overly responsible, workaholism, and conceit.
5. Many of us have lived much of our lives, even as believers, living as if Jesus wasn't actually enough and we place value in our works to bring us into better standing.

Engage with God in a Group

- When have you tried to do seemingly good things but in your own strength?
- What have you experienced in your faith in the times when you've rested in the truth that Jesus is enough, no matter your circumstances?
- How has Jesus changed the way you see yourself and the way you see others?
- How has your faith in Jesus impacted what you value and what you think gives you worth/significance?
- What might God want to say or do through you to encourage someone in your life this week?

Bottom Line

The reality for us, as believers, is that our identity is in Christ - and our lives - are built on Jesus and no one else.