

CAPTIVATED

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Community Group Discussion Guide

August 2, 2015

Week 3 | Captivated...By the Surpassing Satisfaction of Jesus
Philippians 3:1 -11

Introduction

When Paul encountered Jesus and began following Him, the trajectory of his life changed. He went from being a hostile opponent of Christianity to one of Christianity's most well-known proponents. The question this invites us to ask is, "What changed?" What grabbed Paul so much that it reoriented his life?

The answer is: Paul was captivated by knowing Jesus. In his letters, we get important insight – in Paul's own words – on how knowing Jesus captured Paul's attention, fueled his worship, and motivated his mission. As we look at some of these truths that captivated Paul in this series, we see why knowing Jesus is still captivating today and can capture our attention, fuel our worship, and motivate mission in our own lives today.

Questions for Study

1. **Read Philippians 3:1-11.** As you read, what are some of the things that stood out to you? What that Paul wrote surprised you? Anything not make sense? Discuss these things first.
2. What are some categories of things in our world today that operate on the "résumé system"?—i.e. "look at my résumé, look at what I've done; therefore, I can come in, etc."
3. Why does God not operate according to this "résumé system"?
4. If we could be made right with God according to what's on our résumé (and to be clear.... we cannot!), what is it for you that would rise to the top of the list? Church attendance? Baptism? Do you put more weight on this than you ought?
5. Personal Reflection: Do you often not feel satisfied in life at all? Is it perhaps because you're putting too much stock in your own résumé? Is knowing Jesus (really) the end goal for you (as He should be)? Or is He (really) the means to some other end goal?
6. What does Paul essentially say (in vs. 7-9) is the answer to having a surpassing satisfaction in life?
7. In what ways has knowing Jesus changed you? Is Christianity merely a set of facts or propositions to you, or have you experienced Him?
8. What is one practical step of obedience you need to take in light of what you've learned from Philippians 3:1-11?
9. How can Jesus become the lens you look through for your entire worldview?
10. If you've got time remaining, revisit the #CaptivatedSeries reading plan Brookside is doing. Was anyone able to do any of the readings from the previous 2 weeks? If so, what stood out to them from the Bible? If not, what goal can you set as a group to work through the remainder of the plan?