

PHILIPPIANS 3:1-11

Memorize - Complete your memory work on Philippians 2:3-11.

Review Philippians 1:6 and 2:3-11 everyday. This review could be done in the car, in the shower, on a walk or with a friend.

1. Note the occurrence of the verb "to rejoice" in chapters 1 and 2 (1:18; 2:17, 18, 28). Compare the occurrences of the same verb in chapters 3 and 4 (3:1; 4:4, 10).
 - a. What differences do you observe?

 - b. What do these differences suggest about the subject matter of the last two chapters?

Read Philippians 3:1-11 three times 1)_____ 2)_____ 3)_____.

2. Notice the commands in verses 1 and 2. The commands fall into two categories. What are they?

3. Verse 2 speaks of one group described in three different ways. How are they described and *who* are they? (Refer to Acts 15:1-35 and possibly to a Bible dictionary.)

4. Why would the Philippians be a target for such "evil workers?" (Remember Acts 15.)

5. In Philippians 3:3 notice that Paul describes believers as the "circumcision." (The adjective "true" is inserted by the translators-NASB). What does he mean? Compare Genesis 17 and Colossians 2:8-15.

6. In verse 3 Paul enumerates the marks of the people of God. What are they?

7. Some concepts to explain:
 - a. Worship in (or by) the Spirit of God. (What is worship?)

 - b. Glory in Christ Jesus. (What is glory?)

 - c. Put no confidence in the flesh. (What is the flesh?)

8. What relationship does 3:4-11 have to 3:1-3?

9. What does Paul claim as his assets ("things...gain to me" NASB or "whatever was to my profit" NIV) and what is the significance of each (verses 5-6)? Example: Tribe of Benjamin - family background.

10. What would be the *corresponding* assets we might claim today?

11. What were Paul's liabilities or losses?

12. Note the verb tenses in verses 7-8 (past, present or future). What do you learn about Paul from these verbs?

13. The verb "to count" (NASB) or "to consider" (NIV) occurs three times in verses 7-8. What is the significance of this term, particularly in relationship to the verb in verse 8 "I have suffered" (NASB) or "I have lost" (NIV)?

14. What motivated Paul to consider all things as rubbish or garbage? (Notice in verses 8-9 the TWO VERBS that follow "in order that" (NASB) or "that" (NIV) in verse 8).

15. What does it mean to be "found in Him?" (Verse 9 supplies the definition.)

16. Reread verse 9.
 - a. If the old Paul had been asked "How can a man be righteous in God's sight," what would he have answered?

 - b. What would he answer now?

