

Philippians Study: Having a Real Relationship with Jesus
Part Three: A New Righteousness

Lesson 9: Philippians 3:10–14

Read the passage carefully several times

1. In verse 9, Paul shared his new spiritual foundation: the righteousness which comes through faith in Christ. Now that he is “found in him,” what does he most deeply desire to experience (10–11)? In this, how is he a role model for every Christian?
2. In verse 10, Paul says he seeks to know Christ through his power, his sufferings, and his death. How does this play out practically in the life of a believer? Why is experiencing these things essential to truly knowing Christ?
3. Paul has deep assurance of his right standing with God (verse 9) yet says he wants to “attain” the resurrection “by any means possible” (verse 11). Is he doubting his salvation or expressing a goal? How does the hope he clings to change the way we live today?
4. Next, Paul compares his life to a runner (12–14). If Christ has already taken hold of him, why does he still run so hard (12b)? Why is it vital for a runner to forget what is behind? What from our past can distract or hold us back from going forward with Christ?
5. What is “the prize” (14)? What does the “straining” Paul mentions look like in the daily life of a Christian? How does keeping our prize in mind help us handle current challenges or obstacles?