LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

Philippians 3:9–11 | ***Sermon: November 15, 2026***

Big Idea: *Paul's deepest desire is "that I may know him": not just knowing about Christ, but knowing Him in "the power of his resurrection" and in "his sufferings," with the sure hope that he will "attain the resurrection from the dead."*

Observe: What does it say?

1. Paul counts everything as *"rubbish"* so that he may *"gain Christ" (v. 8)*. Then he sets two kinds of righteousness side by side: *"a righteousness of my own"* and *"the righteousness from God" (v. 9)*. What's the difference between these two kinds of righteousness?

2. Count how many times Paul says *"him"* or *"his"* in verses 9–11. What can we learn from Paul's repeated use of these words in these verses?

3. Verses 10–11 begin and end with resurrection, with *"his sufferings"* and *"his death"* in the middle. Why might Paul place suffering between two mentions of resurrection?

Interpret: What does it mean?

4. What is the difference between knowing about Jesus and actually knowing Him? Why would Paul, who had walked with Christ for years, still say *"that I may know him" (v. 10)*?

5. Paul wants to *"share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death" (v. 10)*. Why would Paul want this? How might sharing in Christ's sufferings help him *"know him"* more deeply *(v. 10)*?

6. Paul says *"by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead" (v. 11)*. Is Paul unsure about his salvation? What does Paul mean and not mean by saying this?

Apply: What does this look like lived out?

7. What competes with your desire to know Christ right now? What's one small tweak you can make in your routine this week to pursue Him more intentionally?

8. Where are you struggling or suffering right now? How might God be using it to make you more like Christ?

9. How does the hope of the resurrection change the way you face hard things? How can we share that hope with others who are struggling as well?