

# REIGNMAKER

## “Humble Confidence”

PHILIPPIANS 3

### Small Group Plan

*“The person whose accomplishments really count,  
doesn’t usually stop to count them.”*

— Unknown

#### OPEN IT / INTRODUCE IT ...

- What do people most often brag about today?
- According to Hollywood and Madison Ave., what gives life meaning today?

#### LOOK AT IT / STUDY IT ...

#### — GIVE UP —

Philippians 3:4-7

<sup>4</sup> If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup> as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness, faultless. <sup>7</sup> But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ.

- How had Paul formerly trusted in his own personal performance?
- When thinking about our personal achievements, what would be on our list?
- Was Paul boasting when he listed his accomplishments? Explain.

#### — GIVE IN —

Philippians 3:8-9

<sup>8</sup> What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ — the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.

- What changed Paul’s point of view?
- **How** had he “lost all things” (v. 8)?
- Why did Paul use such an offensive word as “rubbish” (manure) in verse 8?

— **GET IMMERSED** —

**Philippians 3:10-11**

<sup>10</sup> *I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,* <sup>11</sup> *and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.*

- **Why** did Paul “want to know Christ”?
- **How** did he “want to know Christ”?
- Read Romans 6:1-8 and count the “with him” occurrences. How is our baptism a death and resurrection experience?

— **GROW INTO** —

**Philippians 3:12-16**

<sup>12</sup> *Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.* <sup>13</sup> *Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,* <sup>14</sup> *I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.* <sup>15</sup> *All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you.* <sup>16</sup> *Only let us live up to what we have already attained.*

- What is a “mature” view of spiritual growth (v. 15)?
- What is it that Christians have “already attained” (v. 16)?
- What power enables Paul (and us) to “press on” (vs. 12, 14)?
- What does “living up to” God’s gift look like in our lives today (v. 16)?

**USE IT / APPLY IT ...**

- What are your most valuable skills and gifts?
- How can “successes” and “accomplishments” become spiritual obstacles?
- What does it mean “to know Christ” (v. 10)?
- How can we grow into the righteous Jesus has given us?
- How has Jesus taken “hold” of you (v. 12)?
- What kind of things do you need to “forget” (v. 13) in order to gain the “goal” or “prize” (v. 14) of your faith?
- Close by asking God for the humility to admit failure.