

Melbourne Community Church (MCC)

Sunday Service — June 25, 2023

Sermon Notes

Last Week: “Living as Citizens Worthy of the Gospel: A Study in Philippians —Week 3,” [Philippians 2](#), by Dr. Brian D. Russell, Professor Biblical Studies, Asbury Seminary

Old Testament Reading [Isaiah 45:20-25](#);

New Testament Reading: [Philippians 2:5-11](#)

This Week: “Living as Citizens Worthy of the Gospel: A Study in Philippians —Week 3,” [Philippians 3](#), by Dr. Brian D. Russell, Professor Biblical Studies, Asbury Seminary

Old Testament Reading [Deuteronomy 6:4-9](#);

New Testament Reading: [Philippians 3:17-20](#)

Study Questions for Philippians 2:19–30

(1) What characteristics of Gospel citizenship do Timothy and Epaphroditus model for us?

(2) What types of people do we tend to honor in our culture? What are the marks of a person deserving of honor according to Paul?

(3) Who are persons in your life that model an authentic Christian life and witness for you?

Study Questions for Philippians 3:1–6

(1) What problem is Paul addressing in vv. 1–6? Why is circumcision such a big deal to Paul?

(2) What does it mean to have “confidence in the flesh”?

(3) What is the basis of your confidence in life and faith? What external markers or actions do you use to find security in your faith?

(over)

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Study Questions for Philippians 3:7–16

(1) What is the most important thing in your life? What would it mean to count it as loss compared to knowing Christ?

(2) Is your present understanding of the Christian life more based on what you do or on what Christ has done for you? Why is this question so important for Paul in these verses?

(3) What would it look like for you to pursue holiness as a person loved by God in Christ Jesus? How would your life be different?

Study Questions for Philippians 3:17–4:1

(1) Who would you need to become to be able to say to another with full integrity, “join in imitating me”?

(2) What are characteristics of an enemy of the cross of Christ? How does such a person contrast with one who is a citizen of heaven?

(3) In what ways do you draw hope and an attitude of resilience for faithfulness from your faith in Christ?

Additional Notes:

Internet Resources:

The Bible Project: [New Testament Overviews: Philippians](#); [Download Philippians Overview Poster](#);

Book Suggestion: [Thriving in Babylon, Larry Osborne](#)

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