

The Proper Spiritual Accounting Method (part 1)

- **PROPOSITION:** In Chapter 3 of Philippians Paul calls you to _____ so that you will know for certain where you stand with Christ.

- 1) Reevaluate Your Joy in the Lord (1a).
- 2) Reevaluate Your Dedication to the Word (1b).
- 3) Reevaluate Your Understanding of the Gospel (2—3).
- 4) Reevaluate Your Past Achievements as Worthless (4—6).
- 5) Reevaluate Your Present _____ in _____ (7—11).

Verb tenses guide our way through this passage:

Past (v. 7)	Paul's vantage point Present (v. 8)	Future (end of v. 8—11)
Use of imperfect (were gain) ●	Use of present indicative (I count; and count them)	Use of aorist subjunctive (I may gain; may be found; may attain)
Use of perfect (have counted) ● →	_____	●

Paul provides us with _____ to know if we are truly righteous in Christ.

- 1) To Be Righteous in Christ means you have counted your own “_____” _____ as _____ (v. 7).

But,
 the very things _____ which I formerly regarded _____ as gains
 these things I have come to regard _____ for the sake of Christ as a loss.

- 2) To Be Righteous in Christ means you _____ to value Christ over _____ (v. 8).
- 3) To Be Righteous in Christ means that your _____ is to be _____ in _____ (v.9).
- 4) To Be Righteous in Christ means you _____ to _____ (v. 10—11).

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions and praying through the issues will help you further meditate upon God's Word in order to see the areas of your life that need change.

1. If someone were to come up and ask you, "What difference does Christ make in your life?" What would you say? How does He affect your life?

2. Paul, in verse 8, considers all things to be a loss meaning anything that he could have possibly depended upon for entry into heaven. What do your unbelieving friends, family members, and co-workers depend upon for entry into heaven? What works do they do that they believe will get them into heaven? What are some verses that counteract their false beliefs?

3. Paul uses the verb "to count" or "to consider" or "to regard" in response to analyzing the loss of his past works in the flesh. He saw them all as refuse or as revolting to himself (and to God!). How should this be brought out in a gospel presentation? How does this correlate with genuine repentance and salvation? What must someone do to be saved?

4. Do you truly consider everything as loss for the sake of knowing Christ? Do you value and treasure Christ above all things? What are some things that you have lost for the sake of knowing Christ? What are some things that are in the way of you truly following and knowing Christ?

5. What are some additional thoughts and/or application from this morning's lesson? What does this passage teach you about man and about God?

This week's Bible Reading:

<i>Sunday, January 4:</i> Gen 6:1-8:22 Matt 4:1-22	<i>Monday, January 5:</i> Gen 9:1-10:32 Matt 4:23-5:20	<i>Tuesday, January 6:</i> Gen 11:1-13:18 Matt 5:21-42	<i>Wednesday, January 7:</i> Gen 14:1-16:16 Matt 5:43-6:15
<i>Thursday, January 8:</i> Gen 17:1-18:33 Matt 6:16-34	<i>Friday, January 9:</i> Gen 19:1-21:7 Matt 7:1-20	<i>Saturday, January 10:</i> Gen 21:8-23:20 Matt 7:21-8:13	<i>Sunday, January 11:</i> Gen 24:1-67 Matt 8:14-34