

Fixing your Focus For the Future (Part 1)

- **PROPOSITION:** In Chapter 3 of Philippians Paul calls you to reevaluate seven criteria in your life 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 Righteousness in Christ (7—11).**
- 6) **Reevaluate Your Future Prize with Christ (12—16)**

7) **Reevaluate the _____ for your _____ (17—21)**

a) **The _____ to Live _____ (17)**

1. _____ the Right _____ (17a)

2. _____ the Right _____ (17b)

b) **The _____ to Think _____ (20—21)**

1. **Think Righteously because of your _____ (20)**

2. **Think Righteously because of your _____ (21)**

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. In verse 17 Paul uses two imperatives calling his readers to both join and to observe. Why did he use both? Isn't it enough simply to say do as I do? Why did he add that they should observe those who walk like Paul as well?

2. In verse 17 Paul uses the word for "walk" as a present active participle, meaning that this should be the ongoing, day-to-day pattern of your life. This was a common exhortation in Paul's writings (and John's letters). How else does he call us to walk? Look up some of the following passages and note how Paul (and John) is using the term walk (positively or negatively and what characteristic is he bringing to our attention?): Rom 6:4, 8:4, 14:15; 1 Cor 3:3, 7:17; 2 Cor 4:2, 5:7, 10:3; Gal 5:16, 25, 6:16; Eph 2:2, 10, 4:1, 17, 5:2, 8, 15; Col 1:10, 2:6, 3:7; 1 Thess 2:12, 4:1; 1 John 1:6, 7, 2:6.

3. If someone were to ask you why you are eagerly awaiting a Savior, what would you say? Why is the hope of the Christian in eagerly waiting for Jesus? Are there other passages you would use to demonstrate or describe this hope?

4. In verse 21 Paul mentions the power of Christ to transform our bodies. What other passages in Scripture speak of God's power? What are other events that have occurred or will occur that demonstrate the power of God? Write a short definition of God's power.

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, April 25:</i> Rth 3:1-1 Sam 1:20 Luk 13:1-22	<i>Monday, April 26:</i> 1 Sam 1:21-3:21 Luk 13:23-14:6	<i>Tuesday, April 27:</i> 1 Sam 4:1-7:1 Luk 14:7-24	<i>Wednesday, April 28:</i> 1 Sam 7:2-10:8 Luk 14:25-15:10
<i>Thursday, April 29:</i> 1 Sam 10:9-12:25 Luk 15:11-32	<i>Friday, April 30:</i> 1 Sam 13:1-14:48 Luk 16:1-18	<i>Saturday, May 1:</i> 1 Sam 14:49-16:23 Luk 16:19-17:10	<i>Sunday, May 2:</i> 1 Sam 17:1-58 Luk 17:11-37