

Introduction

- Series Intro: A Captivated Life
 - Part 1: There is More
 - Part 2: Press On
- Recent Reading: The Grace Outpouring by Roy Godwin
 - "...There was that cry again. There has to be more than this. I want to be close to him so that I hear his heartbeat and catch his passion for me and others...It might be that you're desperate because you've got yourself caught up in busyness, and the pressure of life has crowded out time...Am I living the life and the lifestyle that God has called me to? Am I in the right place? Perhaps you are aware of a great cry arising within you: If you feel that cry welling within you, I want to suggest that God, the Father himself has put it there. Because that's what he's doing at the moment..."
 - It is God who stirs our hearts for more of Him, for more of Jesus, for more of the Holy Spirit in our lives. When God places longings in our hearts they are an invitation to encounter Him to seek Him. Jesus invites us to know him more.
- Heart Preparation
 - Azaiah-More→ Childlikeness

Main Idea: In knowing Jesus. There is more.

- **Interrogative Question:** Have you grown comfortable, distant in your relationship with Jesus? However, there is a longing to know him. Or perhaps you've never known in an intimate way who Jesus is and there is a longing within you to know him. That longing is his invitation to you.

Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:10-12

- 10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. 12 Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

Prayer

Body

Scripture Focus

- Pre-text (summary) V:1-9
 - V: 1 “To write the same things to you is no trouble for me”
 - We sometimes need to be reminded of things that we already know. Sometimes people are looking for something new, a “revelation” but sometimes what we need to hear is what we already know.
 - V: 2 “Look out, look out, look out”
 - Paul gives a warning, to be careful, against people who would lead them astray through religion.
 - V: 3-9 Paul’s discourse communicates two things. First, he compares religion with the gospel. Secondly, weaved within that discourse is Paul’s affection and passion for Jesus.
 - Religion
 - Religion says because of what I have done I am a righteous person, and this personal righteousness that I have achieved makes me right with God.
 - Gospel
 - The gospel says because of what Christ has done I have been made righteous, that righteousness that comes from God makes me right with God.
 - Paul’s Affection and Passion: Loss & Gain
 - “I counted as loss, I count everything as loss, I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish”
 - “For the sake of Christ, the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, that I may gain Christ, be found in him”

Text in Focus

- V: 10 “that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death”
 - We see the longing in Paul’s heart summarized in these simple words “That I May Know Him”
 - Paul then mentions three things in knowing Jesus that he longs for in his life
 - That he may know the power of Jesus’ resurrection
 - That he may share in Jesus’ sufferings
 - That he may become like Jesus in his death

Essentials

1. May I Know Him

a. Explanation:

- i. I was taken aback by this declaration by Paul. "That I may know Him". Does Paul not know who Jesus is? Here is the man that encountered the resurrected Jesus and heard the voice of God and he is preaching about all these things concerning Jesus, yet the longing in his heart is still to know him more.
- ii. Paul was not satisfied with just his righteous standing before God, he longed for a continual relationship with Jesus. He was captivated by the gospel and the love of God and it became his life pursuit to know Jesus.

b. Application:

- i. Our righteous standing before God paves the way for a relationship.
- ii. Our relationship with Jesus is meant to be continual.
 1. There is more for us to know and experience in our relationship with Jesus.

Transition: In knowing Jesus, the power of His resurrection is foundational to our understanding of who Jesus is and its implication to our lives.

2. May I Know the Power of His Resurrection

a. Explanation:

- i. Theological understanding: If Jesus doesn't resurrect it nullifies everything else-we have no hope-no salvation-no forgiveness of sins-no triumph over death
- ii. Through the resurrection of Jesus, the power of God is demonstrated over sin and death.
- iii. The promise we now have as we share in Jesus' triumph
 1. We can triumph over death (future)
 2. We can triumph over sin (present-future)

b. Application: Knowing Jesus means knowing this power, the new life that is imparted to us now.

- i. We don't have the power to change on our own. The resurrection is power for us.

1. "If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you." -Romans 8:11

3. May I Share His Sufferings

a. Explanation:

- i. Knowing Jesus also means knowing this fellowship of His sufferings.
- ii. Christ Suffered-The Son of God-Lived Obediently- yet suffered

b. Application: Obedience doesn't exempt us from suffering. Both Paul and the rest of the early church, knew that living for Christ included sharing in both the joys and struggles of Christ. This sometimes means suffering. Paul personally endured hardship despite his faithful life spent serving Christ. We often equate suffering with disobedience or punishment. Or obedience as an exemption from suffering

- i. Suffering and the eager longing for future glory
 1. When we go through suffering in our lives there are many paths and approaches we can take I want to suggest the path of eager longing for future glory
 2. When I know and understand the future glory to come and I encounter suffering there is a longing to see God's kingdom on earth

***Worship Team**

Conclusion: In Knowing Jesus. There is more.

4. May I Become Like Him in His Death

- a. Dead to sin, alive to God
 - i. “We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again. Death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. SO YOU also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus” Romans 6:9-11
 - ii. “Grace is not simply leniency when we have sinned. Grace is the enabling gift of God not to sin. Grace is power, not just pardon”
-John Piper
 - iii. If the resurrection is power to overcome sin the path is death, surrender, laying it down before God.
 - iv. Sin will always be a disruptor in our relationship with God to know Jesus more.

Ministry Time:

- **Gospel Invitation:**
 - Because of what Christ has done righteousness is made available. This righteousness paves the way for a relationship with God.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you

The Lord turn his face towards you and give you peace, shalom, from this

day forward

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit

Amen

Notes

- The Grace Outpouring: Becoming a People of Blessing by Roy Godwin
- <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/philippians-3/>