

Today's Message

Pastor Stephen Kirk

Sunday, January 24, 2010

“gods” ***Discovering Your SELF*** **(Philippians 3:1-11)**

Introduction—The longing for *Identity* and the prison of comparison- living — “You...ME!...See the difference!”

What do I look to for my sense of SELF — value, worth, validation?

Philippians 3:1

- Joy...in the Lord! It shaped the trajectory of Paul's life.

Philippians 3:2-3

- Context: Judaizers—muddying the waters for these new Gentile Christians
- Paul warns of the futility of the idolatry of Judaism (or any identifying mark for that matter!)
- Paul's 3-fold ironic plea!
- “Mutilators of the flesh”—*peri-tome* vs. *kata-tome*
- Now...it's Christ...our defining reality!

What validates you as a person?

Your wage, your position, your possessions, your beauty..etc?

- Why are we so weary?

Philippians 3:4-6

- Paul's Incomparable Jewish RESUME`.

Philippians 3:7-9

- **SURPASSING** worth...Paul counts it all as *loss*...compared to knowing Jesus!
- What's your RESUME`?
- This new identity in Christ...is a GIFT! Not deserved or earned, but received by faith!

Philippians 3:10-11

- It's all about cultivating a growing relationship with Jesus.
 - Gaining Christ
 - Being found in Christ
 - Knowing Him: His power, His suffering, His character, His life

Who/what tells you who you really are?

What defines you? Validates your worth?

Are you creating space, time, opportunity to cultivate your relationship with Jesus?

***What do you need to let go of...in order to take hold of the One
who has taken hold of you?***