

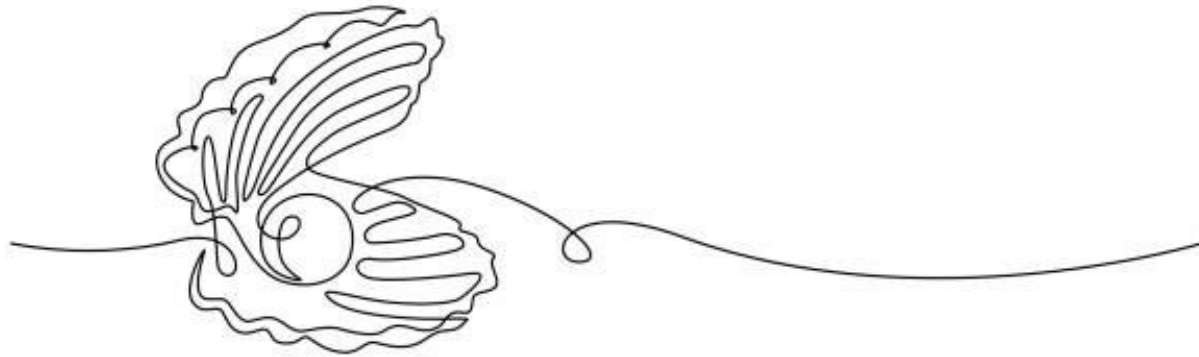
Our Greatest Treasure, Our Raison d'être

Phil. 3:1–11



Our Greatest Treasure, Our Raison d'être

Phil. 3:1–11



Phil. 3:1–11

Whatever happens, my dear brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. I never get tired of telling you these things, and I do it to safeguard your faith.

Phil. 3:1–11

² Watch out for those dogs, those people who do evil, those mutilators who say you must be circumcised to be saved. ³ For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort, ⁴ though I could have confidence in my own effort if anyone could. Indeed, if others have reason for confidence in their own efforts, I have even more!

Phil. 3:1–11

⁵ I was circumcised when I was eight days old. I am a pure-blooded citizen of Israel and a member of the tribe of Benjamin—a real Hebrew if there ever was one! I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law. ⁶ I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault.

Phil. 3:1–11

⁷ I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. ⁸ Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ ⁹ and become one with him.

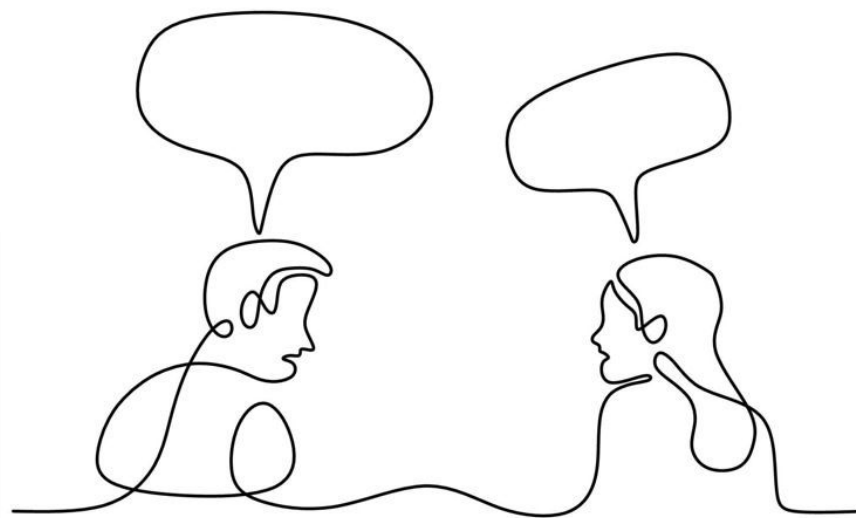
Phil. 3:1–11

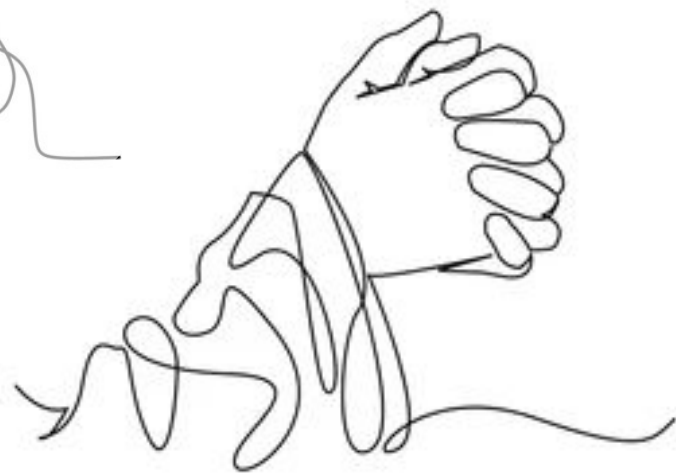
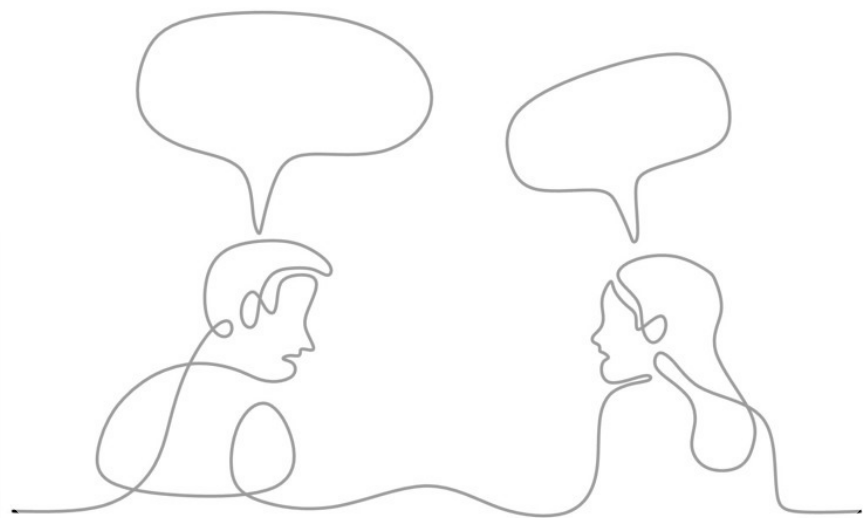
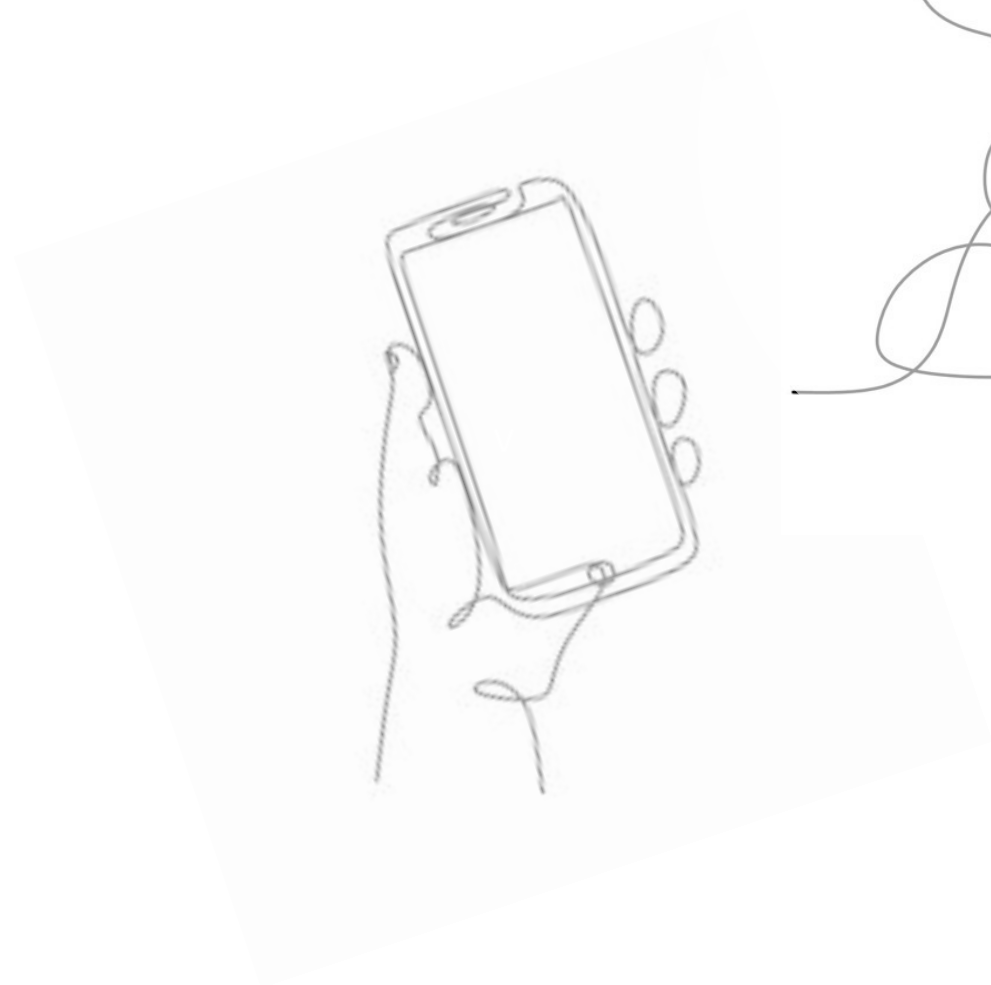
I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith.

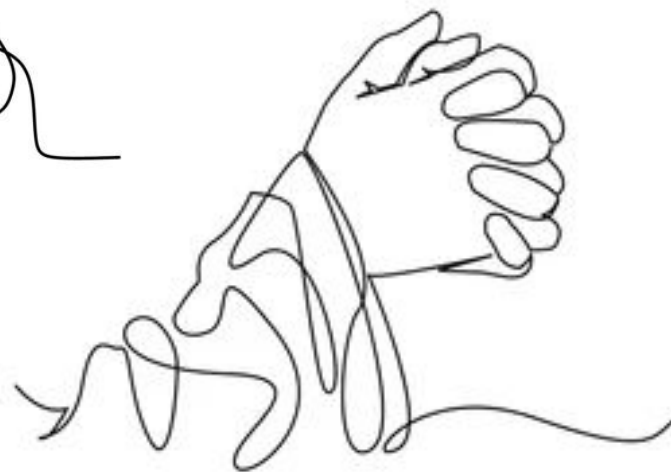
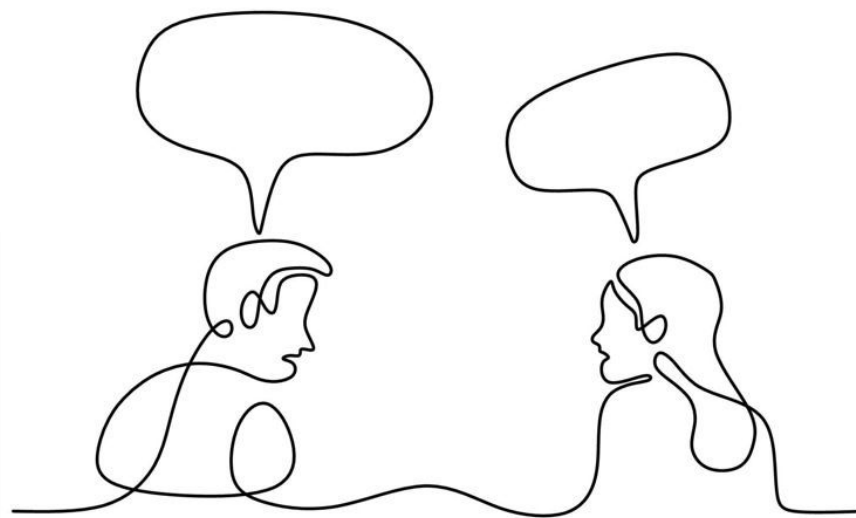
Phil. 3:1–11

¹⁰ I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, ¹¹ so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!











Phil. 3:1–11

⁵ I was **circumcised** when I was eight days old. I am a **pure-blooded citizen of Israel** and a **member of the tribe of Benjamin**—a real Hebrew if there ever was one!

I was a **member of the Pharisees**, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law.

⁶ I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I **obeyed the law without fault.**



Phil. 3:1-11

⁷ I once thought these things were valuable, but **now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done.** ⁸ Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with **the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.**



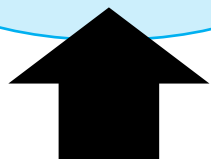
Phil. 3:1-11

**For his sake I have discarded everything else,
counting it all as garbage, so that I could
gain Christ ⁹ and become one with him.**



Phil. 3:1-11

For his sake I have discarded everything else,
counting it all as garbage, so that I could
gain Christ⁹ and become one with him.



**Paul's greatest treasure,
his *raison d'être***



John Sung
1901–1944



John Sung
1901–1944



Apostle Paul
c. 5–64AD

what is your *raison d'être*?

everything else is worthless when
compared with the infinite value of
knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

Phil. 3:8

we rely on what Christ Jesus has
done for us. We put no confidence
in human effort

Phil. 3:3

what do you benefit if you
gain the whole world but
lose your own soul?

Mark 8:36

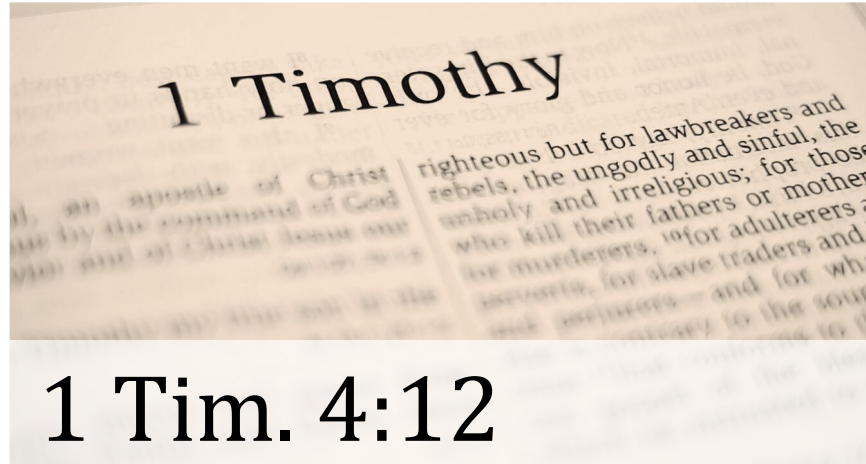
Christ at the centre of *our heart*



Christ at the centre of *our life*







1 Tim. 4:12

Don't let anyone look down on you
because you are young...



El Roi

רֹאֵי אֵל

“The God who sees me”

(Gen. 16:13)



5 “theological worlds”



W. Paul Jones, *Theological Worlds*

1

Christ, our Reconciler

felt issue: *isolation, abandonment*



W. Paul Jones, *Theological Worlds*

1

Christ, our Reconciler

felt issue: *isolation, abandonment*



John 14:6

“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father **except through me.**”

John 14:2–3

“I am going to **prepare a place for you...** and I will come back, and **take you to be with me,** that you will also may be where I am.”

W. Paul Jones, *Theological Worlds*

2

Christ, our Liberator

felt issue: *injustice, oppression*



W. Paul Jones, *Theological Worlds*

2 Christ, our Liberator

felt issue: *injustice, oppression*



Luke 4:18

“He has sent me to **proclaim freedom for the prisoners...**
to **set the oppressed free.**”

Isaiah 50:8

He who **vindicates me** is near...

W. Paul Jones, *Theological Worlds*

3

Christ, our Life-Giver

felt issue: *emptiness, unfulfillment*



W. Paul Jones, *Theological Worlds*

3

Christ, our Life-Giver

felt issue: *emptiness, unfulfillment*



John 10:10

“I have come that they may **have life and have it to the full.**”

John 7:38

“Whoever believes in me... **living water will flow from within them.**”

W. Paul Jones, *Theological Worlds*

4

Christ, our Redeemer

felt issue: *guilt, condemnation*



W. Paul Jones, *Theological Worlds*

4 Christ, our Redeemer

felt issue: *guilt, condemnation*



Romans 8:1

There is now **no condemnation** for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Heb. 9:14

How much more, then, will the blood of Christ... **cleanse our consciences** from acts that lead to death..."

W. Paul Jones, *Theological Worlds*

5

Christ, our Suffering Companion

felt issue: *grief, pain*



W. Paul Jones, *Theological Worlds*

5 Christ, our Suffering Companion

felt issue: *grief, pain*



Isaiah 53:3–5

He was despised and rejected by mankind, **a man of suffering, and familiar with pain...** he took up our pain and bore our suffering...

Psalms 34:18

The Lord is **close to the brokenhearted** and saves those who are **crushed in spirit.**

W. Paul Jones, *Theological Worlds*

THEOLOGICAL WORLD	FELT EXISTENTIAL ISSUE	CHRIST
1	<i>isolation, abandonment</i>	Reconciler
2	<i>injustice, oppression</i>	Liberator
3	<i>emptiness, unfulfillment</i>	Life-Giver
4	<i>guilt, condemnation</i>	Redeemer
5	<i>grief, suffering</i>	Suffering Companion

W. Paul Jones, *Theological Worlds*

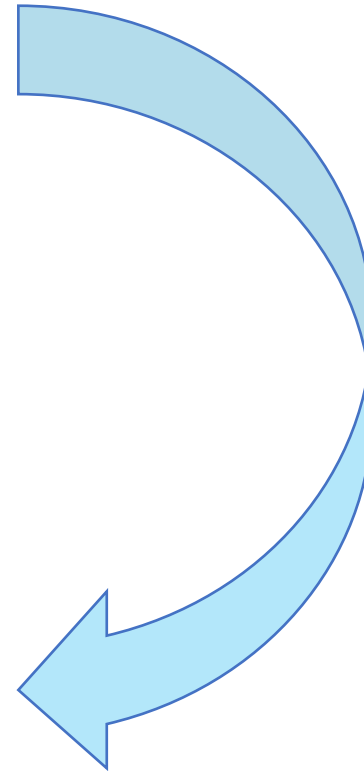


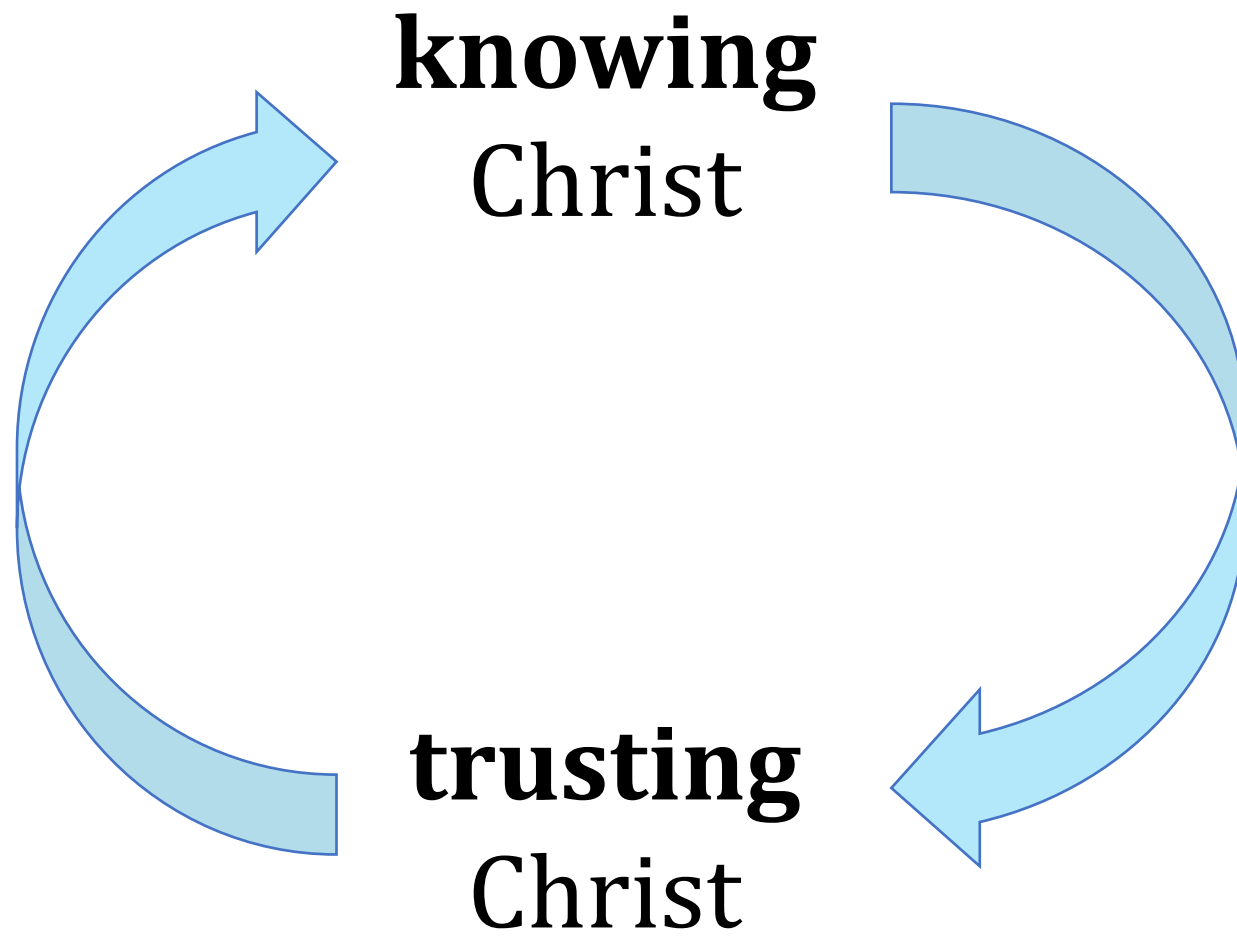
Phil. 3:1–11 (NLT)

... I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous **through faith in Christ.**
For God's way of making us right with himself **depends on faith.**

knowing
Christ

trusting
Christ

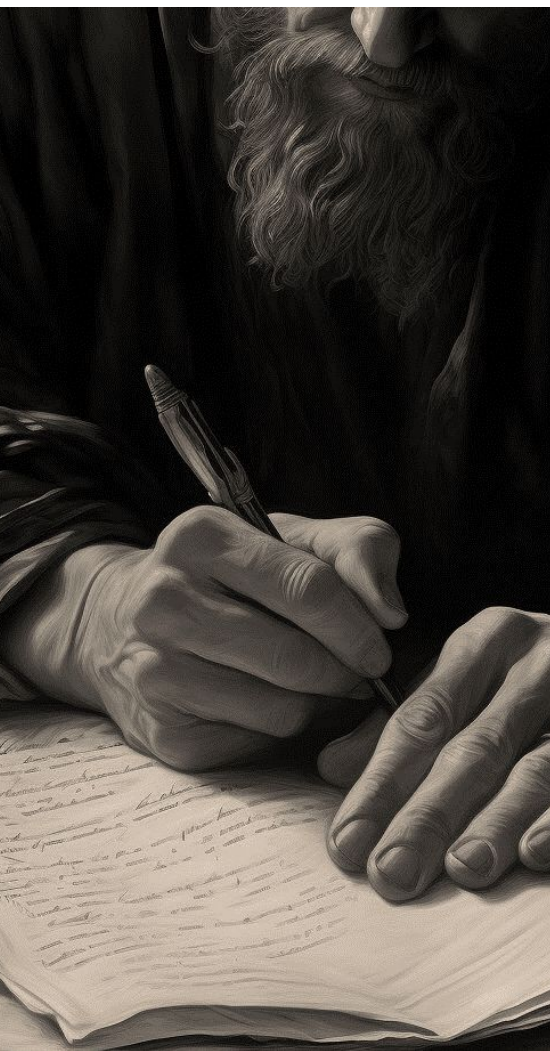






Phil. 3:5-11

¹⁰ I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, ¹¹ so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!



Phil. 3:5-11

¹⁰ I want to know Christ...

γινώσκω *ginosko*



Phil. 3:5-11

¹⁰ I want to **know** Christ...

γινώσκω *ginosko*

“Now this is **eternal life**; that they **know You**, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You sent.”

John 17:3



Phil. 3:5–11

¹⁰ I want to **know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead.** I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, ¹¹ so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!



Phil. 3:5–11

¹⁰ I want to **know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead.** I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, ¹¹ so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!

“Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, **now we may also live new lives.**” (Rom. 6:4)

with great power comes great responsibility

with great power comes great responsibility

with great responsibility comes great power

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“...you will **receive my power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses...” (Acts 1:8)

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“...you will **receive my power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses...” (Acts 1:8)

“...his **incomparably great power for us who believe.**
That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead (Eph. 1:19–20)



Anita

Karen Huang “No Such Thing as Ordinary”
Our Daily Bread, 8 Oct 2021











Phil. 3:1-11

¹⁰ I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead.

I want to suffer with him,
sharing in his death, ¹¹ so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!



“for better, for worse,
for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health...”



Phil. 3:1-11

¹⁰ I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, ¹¹ so that one way or another **I will experience the resurrection from the dead!**

You have been given not only **the privilege of trusting in Christ**, but also **the privilege of suffering for him.** (Phil. 1:29)

You have been given not only **the privilege of trusting in Christ**, but also **the privilege of suffering for him.** (Phil. 1:29)

...if we are to **share in His glory**, we must **share in his suffering.”** (Rom. 8:17)









“Resurrection power... is a power that operates in the midst of **death and despair...** when the entire world seems **bleak, dead, and barren.**

It explodes into life and light in the midst of an empty, dark cemetery—for that is where it was first demonstrated...”

Ray Stedman

“When Jesus Christ was resurrected, He came out from among the dead. So if you... live by **resurrection power**, you can experience **life, hope, and vitality** when [the situation]... is [seemingly] dead, hopeless, and lifeless...”

Ray Stedman



“**joyful** in hope and **patient** in affliction”
(Rom. 12:12)

“**content** whatever the circumstances...
in any and every situation”
(Phil. 4:11–12)

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may **strengthen**
you with power through his Spirit in your inner being.

Eph. 3:16

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may **strengthen you with power** through his Spirit in your inner being.

Eph. 3:16

My grace is sufficient for you, for **my power is made perfect in weakness.**

2 Cor. 12:9

is **Christ** ***your*** greatest treasure,
***your** raison d'être?*

are ***you*** walking with Him in resurrection power
and in the fellowship of His suffering?