

zēmia

skybalon

righteousness :: right relatedness

katantaō

saying **yes**

teleios

diōkō

In **Philippians 3**, Paul talks about everything that he has done in the past. Whatever was good, he counted it all as less than worthless. He considered the worth of Jesus so great that everything else in comparison was of no value.

When you know Jesus, you come into daylight. The shiny things that shone in the darkness mean nothing. Trying to follow the rules and being legalistic became nothing. Instead, trusting in Jesus is much a better idea. Grace prevails in Paul's mind.

Paul says that he wants to know Christ; a deep, intimate and knowing relationship with his Savior. This transformation and change in life, isn't based on works or effort, rather, it is trusting and following Jesus and participating in His life. We choose whether or not to do this. We choose whether or not to participate in Christ's death: Not being nailed to a cross, but, a rejection of the shiny things of this world and choosing the Son that shines bright. We will never be 100% transformed until the end of the age when our bodies will be resurrected. Yet, by choosing to participate in Jesus' death, we will participate in the resurrection.

It's a New Year and a great time to start traveling the road of taking on Christ's righteousness. Pressing on to become complete, not as something acquired through "works", but rather completeness through knowing and choosing Christ's life, death, and resurrection.

- What additional questions and comments did you have about the sermon and supporting texts?
- Will you choose to press on this year? What does this choice look like to you? How will your life look different a year from now?
- What specific goals will you press toward this year? Name one or two ways in which you see God pulling you.
- What specific plans will you use to achieve these goals? Goals without plans are mere pipe dreams—how will you press on? When? Where?
- Who will you include in your pressing on this year? Community was designed to help us reflect the Kingdom. Who in your life can help you press on and how can they help you travel this road?