

Philippians 3

3 And that’s about it, friends. Be glad in God!

I don’t mind repeating what I have written in earlier letters, and I hope you don’t mind hearing it again. Better safe than sorry—so here goes.

2-6 Steer clear of the barking dogs, those religious busybodies, all bark and no bite. All they’re interested in is appearances—knife-happy circumcisers, I call them. The *real* believers are the ones the Spirit of God leads to work away at this ministry, filling the air with Christ’s praise as we do it. We couldn’t carry this off by our own efforts, and we know it—even though we can list what many might think are impressive credentials. You know my pedigree: a legitimate birth, circumcised on the eighth day; an Israelite from the elite tribe of Benjamin; a strict and devout adherent to God’s law; a fiery defender of the purity of my religion, even to the point of persecuting the church; a meticulous observer of everything set down in God’s law Book.

7-9 The very credentials these people are waving around as something special, I’m tearing up and throwing out with the trash—along with everything else I used to take credit for. And why? Because of Christ. Yes, all the things I once thought were so important are gone from my life. Compared to the high privilege of knowing Christ Jesus as my Master, firsthand, everything I once thought I had going for me is insignificant—dog dung. I’ve dumped it all in the trash so that I could embrace Christ and be embraced by him. I didn’t want some petty, inferior brand of righteousness that comes from keeping a list of rules when I could get the robust kind that comes from trusting Christ—*God’s* righteousness.

10-11 I gave up all that inferior stuff so I could know Christ personally, experience his resurrection power, be a partner in his suffering, and go all the way with him to death itself. If there was any way to get in on the resurrection from the dead, I wanted to do it.

12-14 I’m not saying that I have this all together, that I have it made. But I am well on my way, reaching out for Christ, who has so wondrously reached out for me. Friends, don’t get me wrong: By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but I’ve got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward—to Jesus. I’m off and running, and I’m not turning back.

Deep Sheet

(a place for your notes)

What religious beliefs do you need to deconstruct?

What is the “exvangelical” movement?

What does the Greek word “skubala” mean?

Notes:

March Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	☑	Special Prayer	Old Testament	☑
9	Su	John 3			2 Chronicles 21	
10	Mo	John 4			2 Chronicles 22	
11	Tu	John 5			2 Chronicles 23	
12	We	John 6			2 Chronicles 24	
13	Th	John 7			2 Chronicles 25	
14	Fr	John 8			2 Chronicles 26	
15	Sa	John 9			2 Chronicles 27	
16	Su	John 10			2 Chronicles 28	



Laketon Bethel’s Core Values:

A. ACCEPTANCE:

Everyone, regardless of who they are, what they have done, or what they are doing, will be accepted here. Laketon Bethel will be a safe place to explore your relationship with Jesus.

B. BIBLE:

The teachings of Jesus, contained in the Bible, are the final authority for faith and practice. We will study these teachings with open minds and the best scholarship available.

C. CONNECTION:

We invite people to connect with Jesus and with each other in all that we do.

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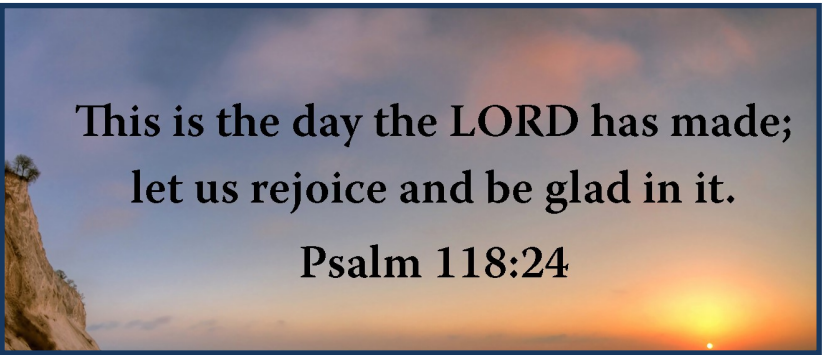
Questions, Part 2

This is a new adult Bible study based on the questions you have asked. Put these dates on your calendar and hold on to your hat because we will be exploring some of the nitty-gritty topics addressed in Scripture.

March 12

This final session will be a potluck with “preacher’s pork” and time to discuss the next Bible Study.

For this session we will talk about “The Hell Debate: Does hell exist?” Does God mandate unending torment of the wicked? Do we simply cease to exist after we die if we reject Jesus?



Special Senior: Larry Cone
Please sign the cards located on the table in the entryway.

Announcements

Jr. High J.A.M. Students in grades 6th and up are welcome to enjoy a lesson during the Crosstalk the 2nd and 4th Sundays. We started a new study that’s focused on answering the question Jesus asked his disciples: “Who do you say that I am?” Our Jr. High JAM group will also get together during our time to support Hand2Hand.

Women’s Divorce Group We’re offering a women’s support group this Wednesday, March 12th at 6:00pm at Park Meadows. We will gather in the small meeting room on the east end. For any questions, please contact Heather Wilke at (231) 215-8593.



Service Opportunities

Nursery Help We are in need of nursery helpers for the Second Service. If interested, please see Sally or Tina.

Sacred Suds Sacred Suds is an organization that helps the homeless. It offers showers, laundry, technology and housing by appointment. They are in need of many items and the list is on the table in the entryway. For any questions, please see Lois Cordle or call her at 286-5700.



Volunteers

- 1st Service Coffee Server: Ed Kawaleski
- 2nd Service Coffee Server: Mark Gaultney
- 1st Service Nursery: Joann Petroski
- 2nd Service Nursery: Tina Dadd & Chelsea Deblock

Order of Worship-9:00am

- Gathering Song
“God Is in Control”
- Call to Worship
“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”
- Welcome & Announcements
- Congregational Prayer
- Worship in Song
“Til the Storm Passes By”
“Under His Wings”
- Crosstalk - “Passing the Test”
- Offering
“Even in the Valley”
- Benediction
“Take My Life, and Let It Be Consecrated”



Order of Worship-11:00am

- Gathering Song
“House of the Lord”
- Call to Worship
“God So Loved”
- Welcome & Announcements
- Congregational Prayer
- Worship in Song
“Holy Forever”
“What a Beautiful Name/Agnus Dei”
- Crosstalk - “Passing the Test”
- Offering
“Old Church Choir”
- Benediction
“The Blessing”