

## **Sermon: Well-Placed Confidence**

### **Text: Philippians 3**

#### **Discussion Questions:**

- What does Paul restate in verse 1 that he has been saying throughout the letter? Why do you think he continues to return to this theme?
- Who are the “dogs” that are mentioned in verse 2? Why do you think he uses this term?
- Why do you think Paul is so adamantly against anyone who places any confidence in “the flesh” with respect to how we are saved? What does Paul state in verse 3 that points the way to how it is we are saved?
- Why do you think Paul describes his “pedigree” in verses 4-6? What does he say about his resume in verse 7?
- Paul talks about “the surpassing worth of knowing Christ” in verse 8. What does he mean by this? Why is “knowing” Jesus so very important? What does it mean in your life, personally, to know Jesus?
- What is the “basis of our righteousness” that Paul describes in vv. 9-10? What are some ways that we can “become like Jesus in His death”?
- The gist of verses 12-14 has to do with never growing complacent—and always desiring to grow and mature in our faith. Is this happening in your life? How can you tell if you’re growing or stagnant in your walk with Christ?
- Is it arrogant for Paul to encourage the Philippian church to follow his example? (v. 17)
- This entire chapter seems to build to a climax in verses 20-21—describing our heavenly citizenship. What do you think is the difference between our “lowly bodies” and the hope of a “glorious body”? How does this relate to Paul’s assessment of his “lowly body” resume (calling it garbage!)?