

To live is Christ means we live life desiring to know, love, and live for Christ in this world. What does that look like for us in this world? Paul describes it his passion for knowing and living for Christ in this way in...Paul describes the immeasurable value of knowing Christ vs. things of “value” in the world. That is not to say everything is meaningless or to nullify the need for hard work or monetary gain to meet our needs and help others, but it’s about what it means to us! Those things pale in comparison to what God gives us. Money...we need it, but enough is never enough, achievements are good, but the value of knowing God is great!

Philip 3:7-14 “But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

What does Paul mean when he says his Gains are losses compared to knowing Christ?

Are there any worldly gains that still compete with your devotion compared to the value of knowing Christ?

How is it that Paul calls his worldly gains garbage compared to gaining Christ and being in Christ?

vs. 9- What do we gain only in Christ that is so valuable?

vs. 10- Because of our love and faith in Christ what comes along with truly knowing and loving Christ?

What do we gain from participating in his suffering? (What does that even mean? Is that a good thing?)

What compels Paul to move forward in this life despite the various challenges in life?

Are there things you need to forget & leave behind to gain Christ?

How does Paul in vs. 14 describe Christ with respect to his devotion to him?

Only having the belief that the value of Christ surpasses all other gains leads to contentment with what we have weather much or little. Without Christ and living for self, enough is never enough! It is a great reminder for us as Christians that we must stay mindful of our true goal, prize, desire is Jesus! He is worth the journey, the pursuit, he is worth more than any other gains we can obtain in this life! Knowing him in character, participating in his life on earth, Loving others like he did came with scars and yet the reward of saving some! Let us not forget the joy of receiving him as our righteousness, and reward....Christ desires us to love him in this way....let's keep striving. It is easy to focus on what we give up to belong to Christ and forget how much more we receive!